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The Indiana Jewish

Post&Opinion

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One Dollar

Everything possible done for Kosovo Jews

MINNEAPOLIS — Now that there is one issue on which Jews and Muslims have a common interest a joint statement supporting NATO on Kosovo has been issued by the local Jewish Community Relations Council and the American Muslim Council, Minneapolis Chapter.

Meanwhile it is learned that many Belgrade Jews have found shelter in the synagogue of the Jewish Community Building and relief payments are being made to the poorest Jews while steps are being taken to provide for others with special needs.

Jay Teath, executive director of the Jewish Community Relations Council, was quoted in The American Jewish World here as stating that the entire Yugoslav Jewish population "is safe, is cared for, and is in communication with world Jewry thanks to the work of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Community, commonly known as the Joint.

"Several months ago the Yugoslav Jewish Federation set up a Crisis Committee to prepare for just the kind of emergency now unfolding. Prior to NATO warplanes beginning to bomb Yugoslavia targets, the Federation sent approximately 200 Jewish mothers and children to safety in Budapest where the Joint and the Jewish community are providing for their needs.

"This is yet another time when the unity and will of the Jewish people is being spectacularly displayed," Teath said. "The yeoman's work of the Joint never ceases to amaze and is made possible by the support we provide to the Minneapolis Jewish Federation and the St. Paul UJFC."

The JCRC is accepting donations which will be forwarded to the Joint and may be sent to JCRC, 1201 Marquette Ave. S. #110, Minneapolis, MN. 55403.

The joint statement asserted that "the world has watched in horror as the forces of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic undertake another campaign of 'ethnic cleansing,' this time directed at the Albanian population of Kosovo. Resorting to using American and NATO military forces is not an easy decision. Yet we believe that our nation's strategic interests and moral values require such a firm response. Our prayers go out for the safety and success of those brave men and women serving in our armed forces, and we mourn the loss of civilian lives."

Jews remaining in Belgrade have reported that life goes on as usual except for longer bread lines, but Jews in Kosovo have refused offers to leave. Plans have been made to bring the approximately 60 Jews in the

Continued on page NAT 2



VIETNAM DAYS RECALLED — Days when college campuses were the scenes of protests over the U.S. actions in Vietnam were recalled as these Brandeis students responded to a day earlier's campus rally in support of U.S. and NATO troops in Kosovo.



A FIRST — Israel's first woman army doctor, Lt. Alina Reisman, 26, prepares to board an armored personnel carrier for duties in southern Lebanon.

Shoah event looks to future

WEST LAFAYETTE — It's billed as a remembrance conference, but what may be Indiana's largest Holocaust remembrance event focuses on the present and future as

The 18th annual Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Conference April 17-18 is a weekend to remember the Holocaust, but also to promote human rights.

This year's conference memorializes Moshood Abiola, Nigeria's president-elect who died in jail under suspicious circumstances. His daughter, Afsat Abiola, will be one of the conference speakers. Her mother was assassinated in Nigeria in 1997.

Saturday's events will include presentations by Holocaust survivors, workshops on China and on Nigeria and an award-winning documentary on the Kindertransports.

Sunday will include tributes to former West Lafayette mayor Sonya Margerum and former Lafayette major Jim Riehle, who 18 years ago challenged the community to establish the Greater Holocaust Remembrance Committee that continues to support the conference activities.

The conference theme is "Reawakening Trust - Rebirth of Hope.

Participants, besides Abiola, will include Harry E. Ashton of the Kent Law School in Chicago and director of Operation Kosovo; Ruth Bevan, a history professor at Yeshiva University; Erika Cornstuble, a Chicago actress; Indianapolis lawyer Irwin Levin, who is a leader in seeking compensation and return of assets for survivors and their heirs, Gregory Wegner of the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse, an authority on the corporations who were Germany's "silent partners," and Jin Xu, a student and daughter of jailed Chinese dissident WenLi Xu.

Survivors participating include Johanna Gartenhaus, **Purdue University Professors** Michael Golomb and Joseph Haberer, Charlotte Guthmann Opfermann and Johanna

Workshops, lectures and panels will focus on human rights, teaching the Holocaust, survivors' stories and current Holocaust litigation.

The community remembrance events include several before and after the two-day conference including Yom HaShoah on Tuesday, April

Rabbi Gedalyah Engel is the conference coordinator. Jewish and non-Jewish clergy, religious and lay groups collaborate to help make the conference a success.

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ISRAEL





Letters

History repeats itself in Kosovo

Dear editor,

Two years ago, I was fortunate to meet a young woman in Indianapolis who, for many reasons, left an indelible impression on me. / She is young, bright, beautiful and a native of Croatia.

As we became friends, I learned from her the horrors that are the real stories behind the images we have been watching for almost three weeks now, every day on TV, and reading about on these very pages.

What, I thought, besides blatant mass murder, (or as the Serbs coined it, ethnic cleansing) total and rampant pillaging of a people and the indiscriminate vicious raping of many of its women, could make this wonderful young woman leave her homeland and her whole life behind at only 15 in 1990 for a strange land a hemisphere away/

Apparently the aforementioned atrocities were enough,

thank you.

With this as my introduction and background, I ask, what is wrong with NATO's plan for Kosovo? That is, to engender a compromise between ethnic albanians, with a full independence of Serbia (a fully-withdrawn Serbia) with a self-governing democratic Kosovo, leaving mainly, defense and foreign affairs in Serb hands. Are NATO and our president being realistic? Idealistic? Or just too simple?

Perhaps an agreement is, in fact, not immediately attainable, but can be immediately agreed upon. To not agree, at least, prompts more days, nights and weeks of NATO bombing, possibly a ground war, certainly general escalation on all military fronts, if not destabilization of Europe, as President Clinton no doubt must fear (remember the Balkan conflict sparked WWI).

With all this swirling around us, them, here, there, in addition to the stories told me by my friend, I find myself, as a Jew, especially at Passover, chilled, literally, by the similarities of this day and those days two generations ago in Europe, when ethnic cleansing or genocide, as I call it, nearly decimated the European Jewish population.

I write this tonight, ironically, on the 50th anniversary of the nazi invasion and bombing of Yugoslavia. It seems, in 1999 the Angel of Death will not pass over Mother Earth, still. Indeed, history does repeat itself.

Have we learned nothing from the poisonous, deadly days of 50 years ago? Should America now hold its wealthy girth, while these sad souls hold their last breath, waiting for the next bomb or their very frail bodies to drop?

Let's not allow the real news of Kosovo today, to turn into the news reels of tomor-



Kosovo crisis awful, but not a Holocaust

By ED STATTMANN

Jewish organizations and individuals, religious and secular, in Israel, the U.S. and other countries are collecting money, sending aid and making other efforts to assist the Kosovars — ethnic Albanians who are being subjected to "ethnic cleansing" by the regular and irregular armed forces of the Serb majority in their land.

The P-O asked a few Indiana Holocaust survivors their feelings about the situation. All agreed the victims should be helped, but beyond that their views differed to various degrees.

Mike Vogel, who saw the death machinery up close, says the media absolutely should not be calling what is happening to the Albanians of Serbia genocide.

"I've seen genocide. I worked at Auschwitz-Birkenau... 600 yards from the gas chambers," says Vogel

It's about time for the people of the world not to blame others for the ethnic group into which they were born," says survivor Gisela

Auschwitz survivor Eva Kor of Terre Haute may be unique in her view that forgiveness is the key to preventing future Holocausts.

She says the problems in Kosovo and Serbia derive from hatreds going back to World War II and earlier - a cycle that must be broken.

"When are we going to stop killing each other? I think the governments of the world should sit down with Nelson Mandela and learn from him

to start healing the pain, because if the pain is not healed from any atrocity, the children will grow up to hate.

"That is why I am so convinced that forgiving one's enemies gives, at least, my children a clean slate. My children do not have to fight or hate anybody who's German. That is a lot easier to live with than a baggage of atrocities that the Serbs have ended up

Forgiving also allows the self-healing of the one who forgives to take place, she says. "Getting even has got to stop."

Kor does not mind news media using the term "genocide" for what is going on in the Baltics, even though it is nowhere near the magnitude of the Holocaust.

"When your whole village is eliminated, to me that was my whole world. That is enough, if half a million people are eliminated."

But she says killing is justified "only under one circumstance - when your life is on the line. Otherwise I don't think that killing is ever justified."

She says an amnesty reconciliation program like the one Mandela instituted in South Africa also requires the perpetrators to reveal what they did, so that survivors and others know what was done and there can be no secrecy about it, no revisionist claims

that what happened didn't really happen.

She says a genetics institute in Munster, Germany, is even now concealing information about the suffering of Holocaust victims under Mengele and his associates, asserting patients' rights to privacy as the reason.

"It's ridiculous. All of a sudden we have rights as patients. The files have tobe opened up."

Mike Vogel says what Serbia's Slobodan Milosevic and his forces are doing to the Kosovars, the rapes, killing, burnings of homes, deporting are horrible.

"However, you cannot compare. This is not genocide. When they took us they boxed us like animals in cattle cars... No one came to help us. There was no airlifting.

"The world knew what was happening to the Jews because, Number one, every country, for example, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, other countries these were all puppet governments of the Nazis. These were all perpetrators. The SS Hlinka guards who were the same as the Nazis they did the job for the Nazis.

Josef Tiso, a Catholic priest, was president of Czechoslovakia, he is the one who sent close to 70,000 Slovakian Jews to the ovens of Auschwitz."

Vogel is for helping the victims of the Serbs, Jews and nonJews alike. He just doesn't want the media calling what is happening now genocide or a Holocaust.

He said he saw the Nazis send to their death "mothers with children, grandparents, people who couldn't perform slave labor for the short time that they kept us alive.

"Please understand, I am hoping this animal Milosevic will be stopped soon. But let the press and let the world not compare this to genocide. "

Holocaust survivor Gisela Weisz says she feels people should be aware of the difference between the Kosovo situation and the Holocaust, a difference she says is 'tremendous."

"Number one is television. Continued on page 6

Poverty Law Center lists 19 Indiana hate groups

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -The Ku Klux Klan does not rule Indiana, as it claimed with some justification to do in the 1920s, but the Hoosier State is home to the fastest growing Klan organization in the country, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center based here.

The Indiana-based American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan are led by Jeff Berry of Newville, whose line is that people's civil rights.

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his group is a Christian group standing up for white

The Southern Poverty Law Center has documented 537 hate groups in America and says Indiana has groups of 19 of them, including the Klan, neo-Nazis, skinheads, black separatists, Christian separatists and Identity

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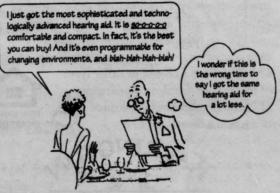
Professional Communications Care sees patients of all ages, from children through seniors. Its professional staff treats "all

> communication disorders," says Ms. Chunn, a speech pathologist who is founder and past president of the Greater Indianapolis Speech and Hearing Association.

The agency strives for a team approach in the treatment of all patients and maintains close communication with physicians and other caregivers. It is Medicare certified and takes responsibility for insurance billing.

Professional Communications Care, P.C. is located at 8801 N. Merid-

ian, Suite 206, in Indianapolis. Call 317-571-8808 or visit the company's web site at www.a1.com/pcc for more information.



Astronaut David Wolf on 'Living Legends' list

The Indiana Historical Society has included Astronaut David Wolf on its first-ever list of "Indiana Living Legends," distinguished Hoosiers it will honor as part of the opening celebration for its new \$36 million headquarters.

Wolf was among the top 13 vote-getters chosen from a list of 74 nominees on ballots the society sent to its 10,000 members and posted on its Internet web site for anyone wishing to vote. Many newspapers throughout the state also published the ballot for the public to vote. Voters were asked to choose as many as 10 individuals.

Wolf has agreed to attend the July 9 event. In fact he was



David Wolf

the first to respond to the invitation, a spokesperson for the society said. All 13 have been invited, but at the time of the announcement the society had not heard from them

Thousands of people from all over Indiana, other states and other countries voted, the publicist said.

"We were overwhelmed by the level of interest," said Peter T. Harstad, the society's executive director.

The Indiana Historical Society's new building is a four-story neoclassical structure near the Central Canal across from the State Government Campus.

The society didn't offer a breakdown listing vote totals of the honorees votes, but said Indiana Pacers Coach Larry Bird, author Kurt Vonnegut Jr. comedian David

Letterman were the top votegetters.

Others included sports figures Carl Erskine, Bob Knight, Oscar Robertson, and John Wooden, philanthropist Ruth Lilly, Sen. Richard Lugar, R-

Ind.; news anchor Jane Pauley, singer John Mellencamp and Indiana University Chancellor Herman B Wells. Wolf was the only Jew named in the society's first roll of "living legends."

More Jewish giggles

The visiting church school supervisor asks little Johnny during Bible class who broke down the walls of Jericho. Little Johnny replies that he does not know, but it definitely is not him.

The supervisor, taken aback by this lack of basic Bible knowledge goes to the school principal and relates the whole incident.

The principal replies that he knows little Johnny as well as his whole family very well and can vouch for them, if little Johnny said that he did not do it, he as principal is satisfied that it is the truth.

Even more appalled the inspector goes to the regional Head of Education and relates the whole story.

After listening he replies: "I cannot see why you are making such a big issue out of this; we will get three bids and fix the darn wall."

Q: What's the difference between a Jewish Mother and a Rottweiler?

A: Eventually the Rottweiler lets go.

A tiny shtetl in Russia had only one cow and it stopped giving milk. The townfolk made some inquiries and discovered they could get a cow from Pinsk for 2,000 rubles or one from Minsk for only 1,000 rubles. So they pooled their money, and bought the

Letter

Continued from page 2

While the debate over what to do in Kosovo rages in lockstep with NATO bombing, I continue to hear the prophetic lines from the Old Testament, Genesis 6:5, when I see the grim, murderous visage of Slobodan Milosevic.

"God saw that man's wickedness on earth was increasing, and every impulse of his innermost thoughts was evil all day long." Jeffrey B. Cohen, Carmel, Ind.

cow from Minsk.

It was a great cow. It was always affable and gave lots of creamy milk. Everybody loved it dearly. The people decided they would mate the cow andbreed more cows like it so that they would never have to worry about their milk supply again. So they got a bull and led it into the cow's pasture.

When the bull came in from the right to mount the cow, the cow moved to the left. When the bull moved in to mount the cow from the left, the cow moved to the right..... This went on all day.

Finally, in desperation, the people decided to go ask the rabbi what to do. After all he was a very wise man.

They told him, "Rabbi, we've tried all day to mate our cow. She just won't give the bull a chance. The rabbi thought a moment and asked, "Did you buy this cow from Minsk?"

"Rabbi?! "They replied as one, "you are so wise. We never said where we bought the cow. How did you know that?"

The rabbi said sadly, "My Continued on page 6

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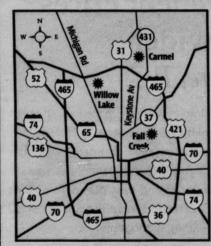
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By SUNRISE ASSISTED LIVING

Notre Dame Law School holds Yom HaShoah event

SOUTH BEND — "The Righteous Among the Nations" was the theme of a Yom Hashoa Holocaust Commemoration Tuesday, April 13, at the University of Notre Dame Law School.

Speakers discussed quiet acts of courage by people who tried to save Jews from the Nazis' program of systematic extermination. There also was a reading of the names of Holocaust victims. Speakers were local Holocaust survivor Dora Goldberg, Notre Dame history professor Doris Bergen and the Rev. John Sullivan. Goldberg shared the memory of the experiences she and her brother endured after their parents were sent to Auschwitz. Christian rescuers saved the children's lives by hiding them in the French countryside.

Bergen spoke of how residents of the French Protestant town of Le Chambon hid Jews from the Nazis. Sullivan, a Carmelite priest from Washington, D.C., spoke ab0out the life of Pere Jacques, a Catho-

Continued on next page

Memorial Day Parade group bars Klan members

ELKHART - Private organizers of the annual Memorial Day Parade in Elkhart have denied the Ku Klux Klan a permit to march in the festivities, citing a Supreme Court decision that allowed a Boston group to ban gays from a St. Patrick's Day parade.

Parade chairman Gary M. Whitehead said the National Knights of the Ku Klux Klan applied to march in the May 31 parade, indicating several of its members were veterans.

The committee unani-

mously ruled against the application. Last July, the American Knights of the Ku Klux Klan applied to be part of the Elkhart County 4-H Fair Parade. That application also was denied. Both denials relied on a 1995 Supreme Court decision in the Boston case. The court ruled that private groups having parades in public streets can exclude those with differing ideals, allowing the Boston group to keep a gay, lesbian and bisexual group from marching

in the parade. Whitehead said race doesnít matter to soldiers sharing a foxhole. He said another reason for denying the Klan request was because the veterans group couldn't provide protection for the Klan or counterdemonstrators. The parade is run by members of Disabled American Veterans Chapter 19, American Legion Post 93 and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 88 and Post 9944. The groups fund the yearly parade with donations

Continued on next page

Community Calendar

(Where place, time or both are omitted, check with organization.)

Wed. 14 — "Food for Mind and Soul," series on Genesis, by Rabbis Dennis and Sandy Sasso, Christ Church Cathedral, noon to 1:15 p.m.

Thur. 15 — Yiddish culture film series, "The Encounter with America, 1 p.m., Laikin Auditorium, ICC

Fri. 16 — Dr. Aviva Gottlieb Zonrberg, "The Art of Prayer," shabbat dinner, 7:30 p.m. Laikin Auditorium, JCC

Sat. 17 — Greater Lafayette Holocaust Remembrance Conference opens, 1 p.m. Class of 1950 Lecture Hall, Purdue University.

Sun. 18 — "Friendship in the Age of AIDS," 7 p.m. JCC,

Rabbi Eric Bram speaks at 3 p.m. to Henrietta Szold Group of Hadassah about Israel as he recently saw it. Susannah Heschel speaks about her father as a modern spiritual master, St. Meinrad Seminary.

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Tue., April 20, 1999 idist Medical Plaza South 8820 S. Meridian Street Wed., April 21, 1999 Methodist Medical Plaza Eagle Highlands 6850 Parkdale Place Thu., April 22, 1999 Methodist Medical Plaza East 9660 E. Washington Street 10:00 a.m. Tue., April 27, 1999 Methodist Medical Plaza East 9660 E. Washington Street 10:00 a.m. Fri., April 30, 1999 Methodist Medical Plaza South Methodist Medical Plaza Eagle Highlands 6850 Parkdale Place 8820 S. Meridian Street 2:00 p.m.

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Giggles

Continued from page 4 wife also is from Minsk."

Notable Jewish quotes

Most Texans think Hanukkah is some sort of duck call. Richard Lewis

My father never lived to see his dream come true of an all-Yiddish-speaking Canada. David Steinberg

I once wanted to become an atheist but I gave up . . . they have no holidays. Henny Youngman

Look at Jewish history. Unrelieved lamenting would be intolerable. So, for every ten Jews beating their breasts, God designated one to be crazy and amuse the breast beaters. By the time I was five

I knew I was that one. Mel Brooks

The time is at hand when the wearing of a prayer shawl and skullcap will not bar a man from the White House, unless, of course, the man is Jewish. Jules Farber

Even if you are Catholic, if you live in New York you're Jewish. If you live in Butte, Montana, you are going to be goyish even if you are Jewish. Lenny Bruce

God, I know we are your chosen people, but couldn't you choose somebody else for a change? Shalom Aleichem

The remarkable thing about my mother is that for 30 years she served us nothing but leftovers. The original

meal has never been found. Calvin Trillin

Let me tell you the one thing I have against Moses. He took us 40 years into the desert in order to bring us to the one place in the Middle East that has no oil! Golda Meir

Yom HaShoah

Continued from prev. page lic rescuer whose work was recognized in the Louis Malle film "Au Revoir Les Enfants." The annual reading of names , called ëUnto every person there is a name," is coordinated throughout the United States by Israel's national Holocaust museum, Yad Veshem, and the B'nai B'rith Center for Community Action. The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley sponsors the program locally, and sponsored the speaking program.

Klan

Continued from prev. page and donit use public money for it, Whitehead said.

Ken Falk, an attorney with the Indiana Civil Liberties Union, said the Supreme Court has made clear that private groups can control whom they admit as marchers in their parades, even if the exclusion is for ideological reasons

However, he said the Klan should be accorded the right to its own separate parade, like any other organization. Even a secret agent can't lie to a Jewish mother. Peter Malkin

Humility is no substitute for a good personality. Fran Lebowitz

My idea of an agreeable person is a person who agrees with me. Benjamin Disraeli

It's so simple to be wise. Just think of something stupid to say and then don't say it. Sam Levenson

God will pardon me. It's His business. Heinrich Heine

I went on a diet, swore off drinking and heavy eating, and in 14 days I had lost exactly two weeks. Joe E. Lewis

Bankruptcy is a legal proceeding in which you put your money in your pants pocket and give your coat to your creditors. Sam Goldwyn

A spoken contract isn't worth the paper it's written on. Sam Goldwyn

Everybody likes a kidder but nobody loans him money. Arthur Miller

I have enough money to last me the rest of my life unless I buy something. Jackie Mason

Continued on page 9

Kosovo

Continued from page 3
In those days, if there would have been television, people would have been shocked as they are today to see those pictures.

"Number two, a tremendous difference: the Germans worked in total secrecy and they did a way better job than the Serbs do now. Even without television the world could have got a notion of it if they had not kept it such a highly closed secret.

3. These refugees went mostly on their own volition. They were told 'Leave your homes and go anywhere. The Jews were collected and taken by cattle car. To an unknown destination which was known to the Germans, which was

the crematoria.

"There was no chance of escaping alive if it was up to the Germans. These people, even though the pictures are horrendous, they have a chance to survive it and make a life for themselves again, which was nil for the Jews.

"Everything else is similar and I am happy that the world wants to help these poor people."

In northern Indiana, Schererville resident Sol Rosner, an Auschwitz survivor, has co-authored a letter for the Jewish Federation of Northwest Indiana seeking funds to help refugees fleeing Kosovo.

The letter reads, in part:

"The Holocaust has taught us the importance of tolerance in a world in which diverse cultures co-exist. Our experiences as a people suggest we must do all that is humanly possible to help others, Jew or Gentile, who are victims of hate and prejudice."

Donations are being accepted at Bank Calumet.

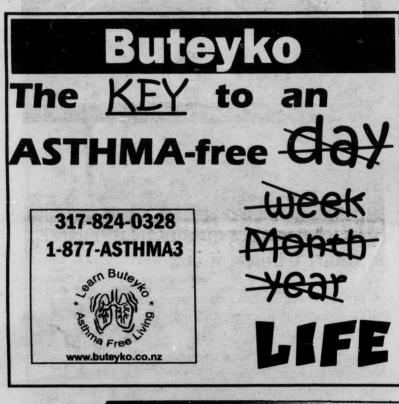
Rosner was born and raised in the Carpathian area of Czechoslovakia, but Hungary, an ally of Nazi Germany, retook the area in the 1939.

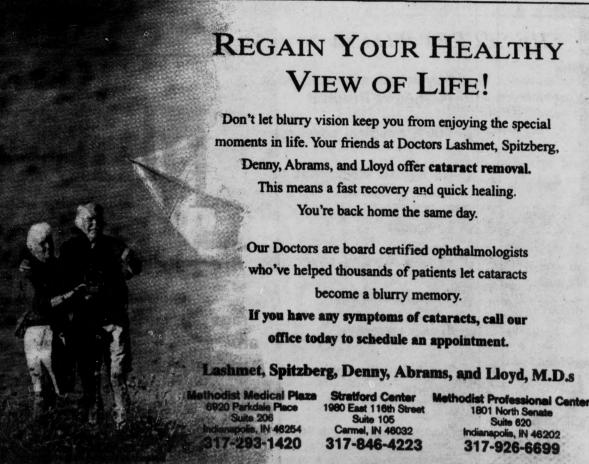
The Holocaust and its aftermath killed his parents, three sisters and a brother.

The letter Rosner helped draft is signed by all three rabbis and Carol Karol, the local Jewish Federation president.

Karol said the Federation has already been helping Jews in Bosnia and Kosovo, but now feels it necessary to expand its work.

"We feel it's important to help other people because no one helped the Jews during the Holocaust 55 years ago," she said.





Critic's Corner

But is it dance?

By CHARLES EPSTEIN

Quite an unusual show was presented in Clowes Memorial Hall when MOMIX took the stage.

One can easily ask what is



MOMIX besides the name of the presentation? Their billing as a dance troupe is a complete misnomer. They call themselves dance illusionists. I call them acrobats, contortionists and positively performers with amazing power moves. The strength of the five performers was absolutely gripping.

With only five performers one had no idea what to expect. The opening number was the most spectacular for me. Two gentlemen, dressed in prison stripes, performed amazing strength moves on metal bunk beds. The choreography was imaginative as Craig Berman and Brian Sand-

ers danced (?) individually and then in unison. These men each had a normal height and build but they accomplished magnificent feats of body strength. Appropriate sound effects accompanied them. So right off the audience was aware that what was to come would be quite astonishing and humorous to boot, let alone different.

The second number of the seven presented before intermission consisted of the lithe Charlaine Katsuyoshi prancing around, managing to gyrate a huge hula hoop all the while. The music was monotonous as this dance (?) was way too long. The dark stage added to the boredom.

Next came a simulated swimming bit followed by three darlings with beach balls and something called brain waving. "Kiss Off The Spider Woman" was performed by Renee Jaworski in a marvelous arachnid costume. The last number before intermission dumbfounded many of the audience before they realized the performers, Charlaine Katsuyoshi and Brian Sanders, were on special skis allowing them to stun us with great power moves.

After intermission there were only four "acts" of inventiveness and surrealistic images. Renee Jaworski was dressed in white and operated on a huge rope dangling from the ceiling. Again, was this dance? Was this amusing? Was this entertaining? Was this a classy Olympic event? With more dark staging and forgettable music this was another boring adventure that

was way too long. Next came Craig Berman with more amazing feats with a table. Charlaine Katsuyoshi followed with an act that looked like she was ice skating. She spun fast and spectacularly without the aid of ice skates.

The last number was quite creative using a prism effect with fantastic lighting and screens. The performers made

magical shadows with a kaleidoscope effect.

But again, was all this dance? This unique company created some interesting effects on stage, mostly one performer at a time, and yet many of the audience came away asking what did I just witness? I am glad I saw MOMIX but I am not sure that I would endeavor to see it again.

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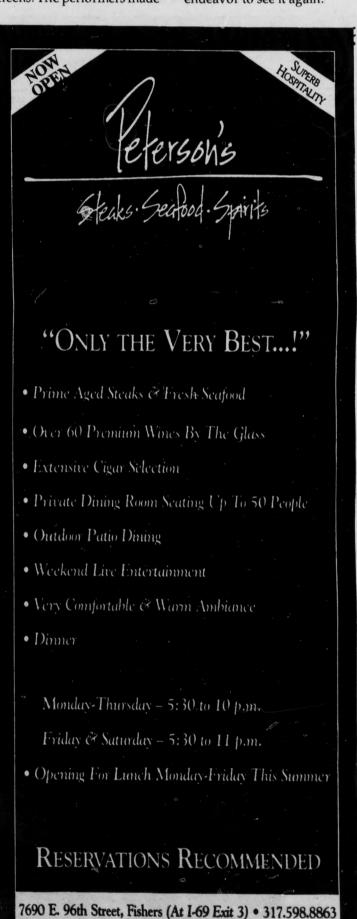
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In order to shed light on this plague of violence, BORDERS BOOK SHOP and THE A.C.T. OUT ENSEMBLE are bringing you a weekend of theatrical performances dedicated to providing awareness of this great social problem.

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is a series of shows exploring the issues of violence, rape, self-esteem and healthy relationships. These performances will explore topics that affect each one of us.

Discussion and interaction will be encouraged after each performance and some material might not be appropriate for all ages.



Poet Laureate to read in Indy

INDIANAPOLIS—Robert Pinsky and three other poets will perform Pinsky's verse translation of Dante's classic *The Inferno* Wednesday, April 14 at 7:30 p.m., in Atherton Union Reilly Room, 704 W. Hampton Dr. This is the final in the Visiting Writers Spring Series. It is free and open to the public.

Pinsky was named the 39th U.S. Poet Laureate in 1997. Currently Pinsky teaches in the graduate writing program at Boston University and is poetry editor of the weekly Internet magazine Slate. He is

the author of five books of poetry, including *The Figured Wheel; New and Collected Poems* 1966-1996. Poets Eavan Boland, Frank Bidart and Lloyd Schwartz will join Pinsky in the readings.

Boland, an Irish poet is the author of 12 books of poetry focusing on the central experiences of ordinary women.

Bidart's poetry books include Golden Slate, The Book of the Body, The Sacrifice and In the Western Night: Collected Poems.

Schwartz, a professor of

cinglish and director of the creative writing program at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, is the author of two books of poetry: *These People* and *Goodnight*, *Gracie*. He received the Pulitzer Prize for criticism in 1994.

The writers series is made possible through support from the Vivian Delbrook Fund, NEH/Ayres Fund, Borders Books & Music, and is an associate of the Academy of American Poets. Call Shirley Daniell for additional information, 317/940-9861.

THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE

PBS presents a balanced history

NEW YORK — Living up to its name, the Public Broadcasting Service, PBS aired a five-hour documentary in late January entitled "The Fifty Years War; Israel and the Arabs" that marked a departure from an earlier pattern of severely biased Middle East documentaries.

The first major project of its kind in six years, the joint BBC-WGBH production traced the turbulent events of the last half century since the founding of the modern nation of Israel.

In the 1980's and early 90's, PBS came under intense criticism for a score of propagandistic, anti-Israel documentaries. "Days of Rage," "Letter from Palestine," "Israel; The Covert Connection," and "Journey to the Occupied Lands" were among broadcasts whose gross partisanship, inflammatory charges and indifference to factual accuracy were documented and publicized by CAMERA and served to convince many viewers the network was incapable of producing objective programs about Israel.

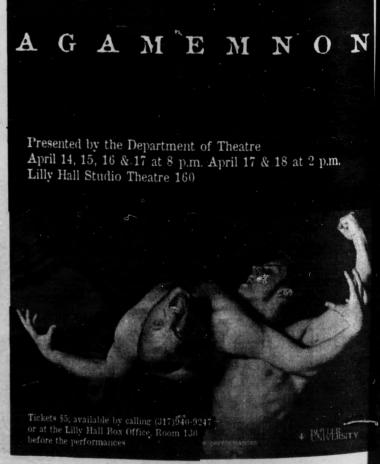
While "The Fifty Years War" was not without problems, its detailed account of a complex subject was, in the main, carefully rendered, factual and balanced. Presenting events primarily from the vantage of statesmen, military experts and individuals in-

volved in key events, the documentary gave viewers a picture of competing regional and great power interests and the recurrent violence that made Israel's rebirth and survival precarious.

Given this choice of perspective, however, the opening segment was startling for its omission of key information. There was no mention of the legal foundation for Israel's reconstitution as a nation in the modern era, which had been affirmed in international law by the League of Nations decades before the United Nations partition vote. Nor was there mention of the delays in Israel's establishment engineered by hostile British colonial policies, delays that proved deadly for Jews in Nazi-controlled Europe who might have been saved.

Nevertheless, the producers' coverage of the period leading up to Israel's declaration of independence, and the Arab war that ensued in an attempt to destroy the new state, included valuable interviews and footage. It was also notably free of the discredited "new historian" perspectives that cast Israel as having been born in original sin and as having possessed significant military might in 1948 against far weaker Arab opponents.





Russia beginning to confront haters

WASHINGTON - The National Conference on Soviet Jewry (NCSJ) has welcomed two important legal developments in Moscow that begin to address the dangerous growth in anti-Semitic and ultra-nationalist appeals to violence in Russia. In separate decisions, Russian Prosecutor-General Yuri Skuratov reportedly resumed his office's investigation into anti-Semitic statements and threats made by Communist parliament member Albert Makashov, and the Russian Supreme Court upheld a ban on a neo-Nazi convention planned for Moscow.

"Following on Prime Minister Yevgeni Primakov's strong condemnation of anti-Semitism earlier this week, these developments are very encouraging," said NCSJ chairman Denis Braham. "General Makashov should be an embarrassment to the Communist Party, which instead tolerates and even endorses his views in public.

"Mr. Skuratov's decision to reopen the investigation into Makashov's incitement of hatred and possibly violence against Jews and other minorities is a reaffirmation that Makashov's rhetoric is at least an embarrassment and a serious concern to all Russians and to the government. We genuinely hope that this investigation will produce results, and may act to deter other politicians from playing the anti-Semitism card in the upcoming parliamentary elections."

"In the last several months," NCSJ President Howard Sachs noted, "Communist and ultra-nationalist leaders in the Duma have publicly blamed Jews for Russia's economic troubles, and Makashov even called for "Death to the Jews!" at a public rally. Jewish communities have been subject to threats and property destruction in Borovichi, Novosibirsk, Kasnodar, and other communities across Russia.

"Even where the authorities initiate investigations, no arrests have yet been made. It unfortunate Makashov's own party has not condemned his actions, and encouraging that the Prosecutor's Office again seeks to call Makashov to ac-

Bernard Winski, 83, dies, formerly of Lafayette

FRANKFORT — Bernard Winski, 83 died Sunday, April 4, in Home Hospital, Lafayette. Born May 2, 1915, in Lafayette, he moved to Frankfort in 1937. He graduated from Jefferson High School in 1932 and attended Purdue University School of Pharmacy.

Mr. Winski had been the owner and operator of Winski Brothers Inc. in Frankfort since 1937.

He was a 62-year member and former congregational president of Temple Israel and was a member of B'nai B'rith. He also was a member of the John Purdue Country Club, was a 60-year member of the Elks Lodge and was a 50-year member and past president of Frankfort Lions Club: He had served on the Frankfort Zoning Board for several years, and was a member of Clinton County Chamber of Commerce and of the Institute of Scrap Recycling.

He married Florence Bernice Roberts on May 9, 1940, and she survives. Also surviving are a son, Sherman Winski of Lafayette and a daughter Alberta Hewett of Frankfort.

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50 is lucky on El Al now

NEW YORK - In celebrating its 50th year of service El Al is offering discounts of up to 50 percent on certain published fares to passengers who share the airline's 50th birthday in 1999. Passengers who turn 50 years old this year and

Giggles

Continued from page 6

I don't want to achieve immortality through my work. I want to achieve immortality through not dying. Woody Allen

Marriage is a wonderful institution. But who wants to live in an institution? Groucho Marx

Whoever called it necking was a poor judge of anatomy Groucho Marx

A politician is a man who will double cross that bridge when he comes to it. Oscar Levant

Too bad that all the people who know how to run this country are busy driving taxis and cutting hair. George

Liberals feel unworthy of their possessions. Conservatives feel they deserve everything they've stolen. Mort Sahl

A committee is a group that keeps minutes and loses hours. Milton Berle

I don't want any yes-men around me. I want everybody to tell me the truth even if it costs them their jobs. Sam Goldwyn

With the collapse of vaudeville, new talent has no place to stink. George Burns

When I bore people at a party, they think it is their



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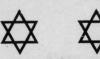
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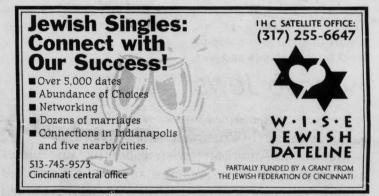
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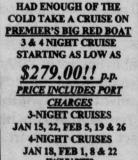
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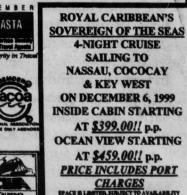
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Jewish Post & Opinion

Just watch and see

It can be assumed that Israel's Magen David Adom will finally be recognized by the International Red Cross Movement as the American Jewish Committee has decided that continued non-recognition by the world movement is unacceptable.

Just watch and see.

It is easy enough for the Red Cross to deny such appeals from Israel and from Zionist organizations but the American Jewish Committee?

The leaders of the Red Cross will now know that continued denial is no longer possible.

When the American Jewish Committee talks, the world has no other alternative not only to listen but also to comply.

This is an unfortunate situation, but nevertheless a significant one and now it is only a matter of a few weeks or a month or so before the Red Cross will act in the affirmative.

Just watch and see.

Kessler wins \$7.3 M. suit

NEW YORK — Sara Lee Kessler won \$7.3 M. in damages from WWOR-TV on claims that she was made to work on the Sabbath and was demoted and then dismissed because they thought she was too old to be an anchor at age 47.

Kosovo Jews

Continued from page NAT 1
Kosovar capital of Pristina to safety if necessary.

Meanwhile American Jewish leaders like Elie Wiesel and Hyman Bookbinder have supported President Clinton's decision to act in the crisis. Wiesel was quoted by the JTA as stating "we must come to the defense of defenseless victims. We cannot allow people like Milosevic to go on killing men and women and children. We should have done it earlier, but it's not too late.

The Jewish War Veterans also had something to say. It expressed support for the air strikes but made it clear it would oppose any commitment of ground forces into a "civil war in a sovereign nation."

The Israeli mission to Kosovo included two paramedics, seven nurses, medics, a medical engineer, specialists in preventive medicine, a pharmacist as well as X-ray and laboratory technicians. It landed in Skoplje, Macedonia and proceeded 12 kilometers north to Stenkovech where it set up its emergency room capable of attending several hundred patients a day and a field hospital. The Israel Air Force flew the mission to Macedonia in three IAF Hercules and a Boeing.

On its first day 55 patients were treated and if additional medicine is required it will be flown in.

The Israeli hospital is the first of its kind in the area. Israel has offered to take in 100 refugees from Kosovo and two locations have already been set aside to receive them.

In Israel thousands packed Rabin Square in Tel Aviv for a fund-raising rock concert under the banner "We of all People Cannot Remain Silent." The youthful crowd was told by Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau, himself a Holocaust survivor, "to act normally at an abnormal time is itself abnormal."

Meanwhile a daylong radiothon raised more than \$600,000.

Editor's Chair

The awarding of an honorary degree by Brandeis University to Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz is a fantastic idea and one that will be universally lauded, and at the same time, hopefully signifies the beginning of a practice that would bring Brandeis closer to the Jewish community which it serves.

Several years ago we suggested here that Brandeis include among those to whom it gives degrees leaders of the American Jewish community and that recommendation has been followed starting with the degree to Max Fisher and in this year one to a member of the Annenberg family.

Now we have another proposal that we hope Brandeis will accept; and that is to award a degree every year to an American rabbi. We even have a proposal to whom that first degree, and most certainly at least one of the first of the rabbinical degrees should be awarded. His initials are GP.

While on the subject of Brandeis, which incidentally one of our daughters attended and also in which we were involved in an accessory way in its getting the kind of reception in the Jewish

community it did when it was first launched.

Also we have broached an approach to Brandeis how it might overcome a problem it inherited and for no valid reason — the vast majority of its students are from the northeast and it gets almost no consideration when a bright student from Omaha or Houston or Louisville or Los Angeles is deciding on the university of its choice.

The principals at Brandeis do not seem to be interested in our approach even though we have offered here to present it to them.

Whether we or they like it or not Brandeis is considered a Jewish university in the same sense that Notre Dame is Catholic. Brandeis has recognized this in the sense that it has designated itself, at least in its earlier years as the contribution of the American Jewish community to the field of American universities.

As far as we know there has been no Jewish student at Brandeis from Indiana since our Miriam graduated years ago, or from Kentucky where we publish The Kentucky Jewish Post and Opinion, and the idea we have would very quickly change that.

No promotion because of sex

TEL AVIV — The message from Israel was clear — improper sexual relations in her army will not be tolerated and especially because every Israeli, male and female, must give three years of service.

Brig-Gen. Nir Galili was deprived of promotion because his secretary had accused him of rape, although he claimed she had consented.

In 1996 an army disciplinary tribunal found him guilty of "a serious offense of a sexual nature," asserting that he had exploited his rank in his relationship with his secretary.

However, after two years he may be promoted.

Serbia's chief rabbi almost was called up

LONDON — Serbia's Chief Rabbi Yitzchak Assiel had been drafted into the army but was released in order to conduct two community seders in Belgrade.

Israel had interceded in his behalf.

Bobby Brown, the prime minister's adviser on diaspora affairs, said "in general, Chief Rabbis do not get drafted into the army. But the authorities promised to release him in order to enable him to conduct two community sedarim in Belgrade."

Brown added that "with the Yugoslav Jewish community under such stress because of the conflict, it needs its spiritual leaders. We will do all we can to make sure he is released from military service."

Chief Rabbi Jonathan Sacks told the Jewish Chronicle here that "I support the NATO intervention in Kosovo and pray that it succeeds. But when it's over, all the problems will remain. Peace doesn't grow from the barrel of a gun."

Rabbi Tony Bayfield, the chief executive of the Reform Synagogues of Great Britain, said he "reluctantly welcomed" the bombing. "Judaism is not a pacifist religion and recognizes that hard decisions have to be taken to prevent worse."

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- **5.** Don't advertise. Forget that there are new potential customers who would do business with you if they were urged to do so.
- 6. Don't advertise. Forget that you have competition trying to attract your customers away from you.
- 7. Don't advertise. Tell yourself it costs too much to advertise and that you don't get enough out of it.
- 8. Don't advertise. Overlook the fact that advertising is an investment in selling not an expense.
- **9.** Don't advertise. Be sure not provide an adequate advertising budget for business.
- 10. Don't advertise. Forget that you have to keep reminding your established customers that you appreciate their business.

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Our Jewish community to change radically

PHILADELPHIA — The American Jewish community of the next century will be so different than as at present as to be almost unrecognizable.

This was the view of Dr. Jonathan Sarna, Brandeis University professor who told a local audience that the best way to assure Jewish continuity is to predict that Jews will not survive because that inspires them to change their behavior to avert the prediction, according to The Jewish Exponent here.

He told the Distinguished Scholar Lectures audience at Gratz College that the Jewish community of the millennium will experience four transformations of which the first will be a decline in the population, followed by the second which will be shrinkage in significance. The third change will be the concentration of Jews in three countries — the U.S., France and Israel, while the fourth will be a continuation of new movements within Judaism and that Jews will move in and out of the religion and in and out of other religions.

He put it this way, "One out of five American Jews identify with one of the new movements in Judaism and not with Reform, Conservatism or Orthodox Judaism. People are marrying across religious lines in record numbers. There will be greater emphasis on the individual rather than on the group. The stress will be on freedom of choice rather than following in the footsteps of our ancestors."

Yet he was not that assured about the future of American Jewry, stating that it still is up for grabs.

"We hear that the intermarriage rate is 52 percent," he said "but anyone involved in Jewish life in any way sees signs of revitalization everywhere. So we have two contradictory trends going on: assimilation and revitalization. The great question is which will win. Then there is the question whether the 2lst century would see religious polarization among Jews or a move back to the center. The vast majority of American jews lie in the center of Jewish life, somewhere between centrist Orthodoxy and centrist Reform. I think American society as a whole is moving back to the center and the Jews may follow."

He added that the most important question, but one that has a less obvious answer is whether 21st century Jews will be able to identify a mission they can be passionate about. The major themes of the 20th century — fighting anti-Semitism, establishing Israel and saving world Jewry — these are behind us, he said. "But there is now no well-defined elevating mission that might bring together American Jews."

Israel Electricity Corp. wasteful, overcharging

STANFORD, Calif. — Presenting a serious study of the stateowned Israel Electricity Corp. the Institute for Advanced Strategic and Political Studies here shows that the overall loss to the economy due to the inefficiency and high prices of the monopoly is estimated at \$524 M. a year, about 0.5 percent of the nation's GDP.

The study shows that at least 3,000 of its 13,000 employees are unnecessary by international standards and that average salaries are 2.6 times the average for the economy as a whole even though clerks and semi-skilled workers constitute 73 percent of its labor force. In addition its employees receive unlimited electricity and extremely generous pensions, among their many perks.

The survey was to the point when it concluded that "return on capital is sacrificed to political interests and outright waste."

The blunt recommendation of the report was that the IEC monopoly be dismantled.

"End state ownership," the survey specified precisely. "Privatize all components of the electricity system to the widest possible community of shareholders and let the market rationalize the production and distribution of electricity.

It then stated its proposals would "increase economic freedom and save the Israeli consumer half a billion dollars a year, or one-sixth of the annual U.S. aid package.

Princess Diana would still be alive

LONDON — Former Chief Rabbi Lord Jakobovits is standing by his statement to Parliament that Princess Diana would still be alive if she had been faithful in her marriage.

And this was not just an offside remark. He made it to the Lords in a speech about the nation's indifference to marriage.

His actual words were that "the People's Princess would still be alive today, and so would her lover, if they had observed the laws on the sanctimony of the marital bond."

Then to the Jewish Chronicle here he added,

"It's a fact — I can't change the sequence of events. Had they respected marriage, they would not have died in each other's arms. I did not say that their deaths were deserved, or a punishment."

He added that Princess Diana's infidelity was more reprehensible than her husband's, as she was "held up as a national icon. Being chosen to join royalty comes with a particular obligation. The nation had invested so much hope in that marriage."

In recognition



Bernard Reisman

The lifetime contributions of Brandeis professor Bernard Reisman to Jewish life and the conclusion of his formal career at Brandeis University were lauded at the annual Milender Seminar at the university attended by more than 300 national Jewish leaders.

Steven Grossman, former national chairman of the Democratic National Committee, has been named chairman of the Brandeis University board of trustees.

The Pittsburgh and Tri-State Region of the Jewish National Fund will honor Janice S. Friedman at its 56th annual dinner on April 18.

Carol Lee Davidow received the Community Service Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews of Cincinnati, now known as the National Conference for Community and Justice.

Baron Hirsch Congregation, Memphis, honored Rabbi Rafael G. Grossman on his 25th year as its senior rabbi.

Mikveh at Duke stirs comment, will stay

DURHAM, N.C. — Because the new Center for Jewish Life at Duke University here will include a mikveh there is consternation in some quarters and solid support in others. It will be the only mikveh between Washington and Atlanta, according to a report by The Jewish Week.

Duke will thus have the honor of being the only American campus with a ritual bath used mostly for conversions and by married Orthodox women for ritual purification after their menstrual periods.

Duke's vice provost Judith Ruderman continues to assert that "there hasn't been opposition to the plan of the mikveh in years" but added "some people didn't like the mikveh for feminist reasons, thinking it is a put-down of women.

Rabbi Cary Friedman, Durham's sole Orthodox rabbi who teaches Torah classes on campus attributed the "tremendous amount of controversy swirling around the ritual bath to all kinds of theological, sociological and feminist reasons. The question was one of appropriateness — of having such a thing on campus. It's not something that's going to be used by the students. It's a very private institution.

The Durham Reform and Conservative rabbis are in favor, since a mikveh is required for conversion purposes.

Dr. Harold Kudler, president of Duke's Hillel board, approves. As a psychiatrist at Duke's Medical Center he said the wider Durham Jewish community staunchly supports the ritual bath. "If a married Orthodox woman were a student at Duke," he said, "we would want her to feel Duke is a place where she could feel entirely at home."

Orthodox, plus some Reform too

EASTBORNE, England — Reform-style services have been added by the Independent Orthodox Eastborne Hebrew Congregation in order to attract new congregants. Employing extensive publicity, the congregation has almost doubled its membership to 140

The congregation has decided that services for the following week would be Ortho-

dox and for the week after that Reform-style.

"We will hold another meeting for a detailed discussion on the format of our future services," said the community's president David Mindell. He said the congregation was considering permanent mixed seating "in part of the shul," according to the Jewish Chronicle of London.

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Obituaries

Elazar Goelman of Gratz College

PHILADELPHIA — Dr. Elazar Goelman, former president of Gratz College, died in Jerusalem at the age of 85. During his tenure at Gratz he spearheaded the institution's accreditation by the Middle States Association of Colleges

and Secondary Schools. In 1972 he was awarded the Zalman Shazar Educators Award.

After making aliyah he worked in the Jewish Agency office dealing with Diaspora education.

Sol Hoffman, 67, of Needle Trades

TEANECK, N.J. — Sol Hoffman, vice president of Unite, the Union of Needle Trades, Industrial and Textile Employees, died at the age of 67. He was chairman of the trade union council of the Jew-

ish Labor Committee and chairman of William Paterson College's board of trustees. He received an honorary doctorate of human letters from the university.

Harry Baer, 74, dies at Superior

SUPERIOR, Wisc. — Harry Baer who had served as president of the former Temple Beth El here, died at the age of 74. He was selected as Citizen of the Year in 1991. He served with the U.S. Army in World War II in the European theater.

Marvin Berlin taken by death

DETROIT — Marvin Berlin, in whose home Torah classes were conducted for 35 years, died of cancer on March 22. He provided major assistance to buy the land and build Shomrey Emunah Congregation in Southfield. He

was active in many community organizations. Classes were cancelled at the yeshiva in Southfield and its Sally Allan Alexander Beth Jacob School for Girls in Oak Park to permit students and staff to attend the funeral.

Leslie Kotok of Vineland

VINELAND, N.J. — Leslie Kotok, who was active in many charitable organizations, died at the age of 80. He was a past president of the Friends of the Vineland Pub-

lic Library. He was named "Citizen of the Year" by the Vineland Chamber of Commerce in 1982. In 1986 the B'nai B'rith gave him its Service and Leadership Award.

Paul Waitz, 71, dies at Sharon

SHARON, Mass. — Paul Waitz, a former president of Temple Adath Sharon, died at the age of 71. He also was a leader in the Chabad Center

reset Avot

of Sharon, plus a Boy Scout chairman for many years with the Old Colony Council. He practiced law for over 30 years in Boston.

How to solve the problem

PITTSBURGH — The Community Relations Committee of the local federation has its own method of solving the problem of non-recognition in Israel of conversions by other than Orthodox rabbis. It

sponsored a debate on the question but Rabbi James Gibson of Temple Sinai Congregation took the Orthodox side and Rabbi Yisroel Miller of Congregation Poale Zedeck took the opposite side.

7 countryside congregations

NEW YORK — The seven new congregations which have joined the Union of American Hebrew Congregations are indicative of the lure of living away from big cities as two of them are in the Seattle area, one is at Ketchum, Idaho, home of the Sun Valley ski resort, another in the Sierra Mountains at Placerville, Ca., another at Hickory, N.C. and the final one at Centerville, VA

Mayor jailed on sexual acts

PORT HURON, MICH. — Mayor Gerald Ackerman, 42, has been arraigned in court here on multiple counts of criminal sexual conduct with four teenage and pre-teen girls. The girls attended programs in a youth rehabilitation center the mayor founded.

His attorneys sought to have him placed in a psychiatric ward to avert an attempted suicide but Judge David Nicholson refused the request and continued the mayor's \$25,000 bond.

The four victims, ranging in age from 9 to 14, said Ackerman had engaged in oral sex with them or sought

He faces imprisonment for life.

Ackerman was the adopted son of Charles and Freda Ackerman, and attended Hebrew School at Beth Aaron and Young Israel-Oak Park.

A \$5 M. gift to day schools

DETROIT — Probably the largest single gift ever to Jewish day schools is the \$5 M. one by Dr. Milton and Lois Shiffman. The donation is expected to provide \$800,000 a year for day schools and the donation will be matched by the Federation.

The Shiffmans have grandchildren at both the Hebrew Day School of Metropolitan Detroit and Akiva Day School.

Jake Stras pro offer a cinch

BALDWIN CITY, KAN.— Seventeen NFL teams thought enough about the prospects of Jake Stras to check him out, so it's a matter of terms and money that will decide where the Baker University star will compete. At 6-2 and 330 pounds he's massive and after being selected to play in three all-star games, he'll compete in the Professional Football Association game in Orlando.

At Baker he made all-Conference for two years and once was named Offensive Player of the Week, according to the Kansas City Jewish Chronicle.

Smashnova falls in second round

AMELIA ISLAND, Fla. — Anna Smashnova seems to have difficulty in making it past the first round as she lost to Alexandra Fusai in the Bausch & Lomb Championships by 3-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Denver subscriber names Roseanne Mystery Person

Reader Esther Birnbaum of Denver named the mystery person as Roseanne, now host of her own television talk show.

Roseanne was born Roseanne Barr in Salt Lake City, in a Jewish family, and grew up surrounded by a population of Mormons.

Our first clue, that she worked in a church coffee-house alluded to a job she held in Denver, one of many non-starring roles, including window dresser, cocktail waitress and co-owner of Roseanne and Tom's Big Food Diner at Eldon, Iowa.

Our second clue that she has received numerous professional achievement awards refers to 1987 awards as funniest female performer in a TV special and funniest female in comedy, a readers poll of U.S. magazines in 1989 that voted her best actress in a comedy series while she was

starring in the Roseanne series on ABC, a 1989 Golden Globe nomination as outstanding lead actress in a comedy series, a 1993 Emmy nomination as lead actress in a comedy and other recognitions.

The third clue that she is a professional entertainer probably gave it away to reader Birnbaum, who is from Denver, because Roseanne worked in standup comedy in the Denver area.

The fourth clue pinpointed her professional background.

Roseanne's first biography, "My Life as a Woman," states she has worked many volunteer hours for Jewish and feminist causes.

She frequently mentions on her current talk show that she is Jewish and is learning about the Kabbalah.

Mayoralty candidate could make 3 in a row

By PAUL R. GOLDSTEIN

EVANSVILLE, Ind. — Some kind of record could be made as David L. Woll seeks to become mayor of this city, since two cities 100 miles equidistant which form a triangle have had or do have Jewish mayors, Indianapolis and Louisville.

Woll cannot count on the Jewish vote as a factor since its 125 Jewish families are a negligible percent of the population. But his Jewish affiliations are substantial since he is on the board of Temple Adath B'nai Israel, a Reform congregation, has held leadership positions in local and regional ADL groups and is a past president of B'nai B'rith's Thisbe Lodge. He even was president of the Buffalo Trace Council of Boy Scouts of America.

At age 50 he also is able to tell voters that his experience includes serving as legislative aide to State Senator Robert Orr and Representative Joe Deckard, plus he earned an M.A. degree in urban planning from Columbia University.

Asked about his views on the schism between Orthodox and non-Orthodox in Israel, he admits he is not as informed as he should be and termed the situation as probably a lack of empathy.

He attends services regu-



David Woll

larly at Temple Adath Sholom whose service he describes as halfway between Reform and Conservative.

When voters arrive at polling places they can consider also his background as a member of the American Civil Liberties Union, serving on the screening committee, as president of the Buffalo Trace Council of Boy Scouts of America, having received its Silver Beaver Award in 1991 and serving as its president 1989-90.

He Also is active with the ADL and had served on its national New Leadership Council.

In private life he is president of the R & W Publishing, Inc. and Woll Enterprises, Inc.

Memory only?

By JACOB NEUSNER

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Today [April 12, 1999] — Holocaust Memorial Day — marks the sixth anniversary of the opening of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum.

It has now made, and continues to make, a powerful symbolic statement, prominently situated on the Mall in the nation's memorial corridor, that America mourns the mass murder of millions of Jews in World War II Europe. American Jewry's obsession with remembering the catastrophe, to the near-exclusion of all else, comes to triumphant conclusion. With Holocaust Museums and memorials established in every sizable city in this country, indeed with one of the largest and most successful right here in St. Petersburg, American Jews have made their statement to the country.

What, precisely, have they tried to say?

The answer lies in the beginnings of the Holocaust memorial movement, which some of us have called "the Judaism of Holocaust and Redemption," and others, "the Judaism of blood and fire."

The Holocaust memorials bear the message that [1] gentiles are not to be trusted — most of them having stood idly by, while many of them murdered Jews, and only a pitiful minority did anything to save lives. Therefore Jews should remain Jewish. And [2] the State of Israel, where Jews bear arms to defend themselves, offers the last best hope of survival.

The organized Jewish community has spent a quartercentury, from the Six Day War of June, 1967, to today's triumphant conclusion, to deliver that message to itself.

In the 1950s and early 1960s, by contrast, Jewry built synagogues and community centers, organized itself as an ethnic community wearing a religious cloak. Nathan Glazer's classic "American Judaism" (1955) does not refer to the European catastrothe and treats as peripheral the State of Israel and Zionism. Judaism, a supernatural, other-worldly religion, was recast into an ethnic identity in a country that accepted religious, but not national or racial or ethnic difference, and the Jews' ethnic cheer leaders called themselves clergymen, rabbis, though politics and practical affairs, not prayer and study of the Torah, captured their best energies.

In those years, the word "Holocaust" did not exist, Israeli affairs played a modest role in American Jewish consciousness, and the destruction of European Jewry scarcely entered public discourse, let alone defining its terms

What changed everything was the 1967 war, or, rather, the three weeks from Nasser's closing of the Suez canal to the destruction of the Egyptian air force on June 5. During that awful time, when the Israelis came to the West with the contract of 1956 — the signed,

wall"), and the establishment of the State of Israel as a permanent and powerful presence in world affairs.

The nations had failed us. But we had not failed ourselves. We have learned the lessons of the Holocaust: defend ourselves, don't trust gentiles.

Holocaust without redemption bore no plausible message. But threatened destruction prevented by wondrous salvation through one's own efforts — that was something else. Here Jews found the benefits of religion — purpose, meaning, promise and fulfillment — without the

grown up with the ethnic Jewishness of Holocaust and Redemption — don't trust the gentiles, do depend for psychic security on the state of Israel. Living as a minority of about 2 percent in the USA, where gentiles have elected a U.S. Senate that is 10 percent Jewish, and the Federal budget dependably provides the State of Israel with billions from year to year, rarely even visiting its supposed "spiritual center" (scarcely 20 percent of American Jews have set foot in Jerusalem, even for a day), Jews have defined for themselves a life that is lived somewhere else than where they are located.

Appealing to the "self-evident" meaning of events they have not experienced, in places where they do not live, an entire generation has explained to its children the reason they are Jewish, therefore in some ways different from others. And how have the children responded to this Judaism consisting of only memory? The same years that mark the triumph in American Jewry's civil religion of the

Judaism of Holocaust and Redemption also have witnessed unprecedented wave of intermarriage between Jews and unconverted gentiles.

In the past eight years alone, more than half of all Jews entering marriage did so with gentiles. That proves two things. First, gentiles want to marry Jews. So America is not Germany, where they didn't. And, second, Jews vote not only with their feet — choosing not to live in the State of Israel — but also with their heart — choosing not to raise another generation of Jews. Holocaust-and-Redemption Judaism simply has failed in its chosen mission to keep Jews Jewish.

Today's celebration comes to climax in the recital of the Kaddish of Mourning, the prayer in honor of the dead. Tears will flow. But some wonder whether on high above the Mall, the angels' weep, too, for that tough, other-worldly Judaism, the religion set forth by the Torah, oral and written, that for American Jews is now mostly a faded memory.

It has now made, and continues to make, a powerful symbolic statement, prominently situated on the Mall in the nation's memorial corridor, that America mourns the mass murder of millions of Jews in World War II Europe. American Jewry's obsession with remembering the catastrophe, to the near-exclusion of all else, comes to triumphant conclusion. With Holocaust Museums and memorials established in every sizable city in this country, indeed with one of the largest and most successful right here in St. Petersburg, American Jews have made their statement to the country. What, precisely, have they tried to say?

sealed, and delivered pledge to keep open the Straits of Tiran and the Gulf of Eilat—no one remembered their name. It seemed like a rerun of the events of 1933-1945. With Arab spokesmen on TV every night declaring that, in a brief spell, the Jews would be driven into the sea, many of us fearfully waited for the second, and final Holocaust. Once more, no one cared.

So vast numbers of Jews, left indifferent by the ethnic religion that explained why they should be Jewish, returned to the ethnic fold, not to the ancient faith. American Jewish Holocaustomania was born with the Israelis' spectacular defense of their lives and homeland, the return to the Jewish memorial of the ancient Temple ("the Western

price in other-worldly faith upon things unseen. Returning to the fold, an entire generation of formerly-indifferent Jewish intellectuals discovered not the Torah but Jewishness.

Emil Fackenheim, certainly the best mind of Holocaust theology, discovered a 614th commandment in addition to the 613 commandments of the conventional faith: "Thou shalt not hand Hitler any more victories." By this people understood: "Be Jewish," since Hitler wanted to murder all the Jews. How or why be Jewish no one was supposed to ask. And no one had to: give money, support Israel — these formed self-evident answers.

Now, 25 years later, an entire generation of Jews has

Lufthansa also willing

BERLIN — Lufthansa officials have announced that it is prepared to pay into a fund to settle claims against German firms that profited under the

Nazi regime. It said it had used prisoners of war and others living in occupied countries at the airline's wartime plants.

Torah Dynamics in your home!



Torah Dynamics — Pirkei Avot Looks At Life reveals the fascinating world view of the greatest sages and the wealth of their wisdom. A must in every Jewish library, this book provides greater understanding of Jewish values, ethics and tradition in easily understandable language.

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whelmingly popular and is currently in its third edition. Ideal as a gift, and a wonderful addition to every home, synagogue and school, this book provides a new look at life.

Take advantage of the republished limited special edition of Torah Dynamics — Pirkei Avot Looks At Life by Samson Krupnick and co-author Dr. Morris Mandel; Price per book — \$20 plus \$3.50 shipping charges — a total of \$23.50.

Please send your check to Samson Krupnick at 22 Pinsker Street, Jerusalem, 92238, Israel.

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NAT 6 April 14, 1999 Quotation of the week

I've got important news, and I wanted you to be the first to know: I hereby declare my candidacy in the race for prime minister of Israel.

Why am I running? Mostly because everyone else is. Dan Meridor and Benny Begin left Likud to form their own new parties. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak has given up his military career to start a new party. Even Moshe Arens, who was Bibi Netanyahu's political mentor, is challenging him for the leadership within Likud.

How could I consider myself a serious student of Israeli politics and not give it a shot myself? Besides, after intense discussions with two American media gurus, Arthur Finkelstein, who works for Bibi, and James Carville, the Clinton advocate recently hired by Labor's Ehud Barak, I've got a whole campaign agenda, strategy and slogan, based on the art of spin.

Let's start with my qualifications. You might say that I am not fit to lead the State of Israel because I'm a complete novice, never served the Knesset, etc. Ah, but my advisers suggest I make those facts a selling point. After all, Shahak is entering virgin territory as a politician and the polls show him beating Bibi. His rivals are hoping he'll slip up during the long election campaign and make some blunders, so I figure if I just keep my

mouth shut until May, I can't lose.

Another plus for me is that I won't be taking valuable time away from the Knesset or government service by coming to New York every other week to raise funds for my campaign like my worthy opponents. (Sorry, make that "my disgusting opponents" — Art and Jim told me to go negative, hard and early.) I'm already here in the city and I'm setting up one of those soft money "American Friends of" organizations because it's illegal to give campaign money directly to a candidate, though it would sure be simpler. This way, if you send me \$20, you can feel you own me. And for every check I get, I'll mail you my campaign song free. It's the Stevie Wonder classic, "Signed, Sealed, Delivered. I'm Yours."

In the spirit of the times, I pledge to run a completely partisan, narrow-interest, negative campaign, attacking all the other candidates so I won't have to come up with my own policies or call attention to myself (You know, those media advisers are

worth every penny they charge.)

I haven't decided on a slogan yet, though. I kind of liked invoking FDR with, "A cholent in every pot" but Jim and Art agreed that was old-fashioned and too ethnic. They said I should focus on people's sense of greed, which is always a winner. Jim suggested "Peace, shmeace, as long as you're wealthy." Not bad. Art likes, "Give Back the Golan? Maybe. Give up Dunkin' Donuts? Never." (These guys are geniuses.)

But then I met Aryeh Deri, the brains behind Shas, and he said I should go with a message of *kiruv*, or religious outreach. He suggested, "Go to shul or go to hell." No wonder Shas is the

hottest party in Israel.

Now it's not my nature to brag, but I think I've got some of the qualities of Israel's most illustrious figures. I've got the humility of Shimon Peres, the diplomatic tact of Ariel Sharon, the trustworthiness of Bibi, and the barber of Ben-Gurion. (Sounds like an Israeli opera, no?) And I've made about as much impact on the Israeli political scene this past year as Ehud Barak, and

he's leading Labor.

The truth is — but this is a secret — I don't expect to actually get elected as prime minister. The trick is to make a backroom deal and become a part of the next coalition. I've already gotten feelers from several of the bigger parties. After a long conversation with one party hack, I got exasperated and told him I was holding out for Minister of Silly Walks. He obviously was not a Monty Python fan and took me seriously. He called back the next day to say the best he could offer was a combined post: Minister of Euphemisms (that's the guy who comes up with words like "redeployment" for troop withdrawal) and Tooth Decay. I do admire their creativity. I told him I'd consider it.

But I was insulted when one major party said the best they could offer me was foreign minister, a post that Bibi has not filled since David Levy quit. I said, "Are you suggesting that I'm so lazy I can't put in a full day's work?" They apologized profusely and said they'd get back to me.

So that's how things stand for now. It's been a real learning experience, this candidacy stuff. But the scariest part is that I just declared a few minutes ago and already I can feel my head swelling up and my common sense going out the window.

Think I've got a chance?—Gary Rosenblatt, editor of The Jew-

As I Heard It

Turkish and all that jazz

By MORTON GOLD

Today's column will feature two strange and unrelated bedfellows. The first CD is called "Yehudi: Jewish Music from the Seraglio." It is a



1996 Teldec recording, #0630-11699-2.

At the time of the expulsion of the Jewish community from Spain in the 15th century, many of these found refuge in Turkey. Not only refuge but opportunity. They found opportunity at the Turkish court where many became physicians, musicians, and even ambassadors.

This CD bears tribute to the rich musical heritage they have left behind. The CD has an informative booklet, with photos and translations. The problem with the music, however, is that it is difficult for one with western ears to assimilate.

The instruments are indigenous to the region. Quarter tones and sliding effects plus the constant coupling of a single line with a percussion instrument while interesting musically is nevertheless hard to take. With tongue in cheek, it all sounds like Turkish music to me. If one has not experienced what sounds like authentic Turkish music composed by Jews who were Turks, then by all means listen to this CD.

Another CD in the collection graciously sent to me some time ago by Tara Publications is a CD called "THe Jazz Service" by Cantor Bruce Benson. It was copyrighted in 1986 by Bensongs and is #B-104. This abbreviated Sabbath Eve Service features the saxophone playing of Kenny G. To my ears this is the biggest attraction on the CD. Cantor Bruce Benson has a pleasing pop sounding baritone reminiscent of Vic Damone in his vounger days. (I have a long memory.) There are eight selections on the CD. THe first is a setting of the Candle Blessing which in turn leads to a of setting

L'Adonai. (The deity's name even appears in English in the new Conservative Prayer Book. To my knowledge orthodox Jews will use the NAME only in prayer and will not spell it out in English. This is a subject for a column by a learned rabbi. I digress.)

As a jazz service, it is what it says it is. For Jews who know nothing of the synagogue or its traditions and want musical fare of the commercial sort, this then will be their cup of tea, because if nothing else, it is entertaining. So is Yanni or John Tesh for that matter. Draw your own conclusions. The "Havu" fades out rather than ends. A setting of the Barchu follows. The phrase "Barchu et...." is repeated, repeated, repeated...you get the idea. I could go on, but to sum up...even near the beginning, one must comment that it IS commercially appealing.

It certainly is an alternative service. Alternative yes, entertaining yes, but suitable? That is the question. While I do have an opinion, surely, I do not have the definitive answer to that question. A setting of the "Sh'ma" follows, like no setting you have ever heard (or may want to hear.) A Mi Chamocha" follows. I must state that I really "dig" the saxophone playing of Kenny G.I would observe that with a few beers this music could really grow on you. (My son the jazz singer, "yet.")

Actually, this is the first selection in this genre that I liked musically although I do believe that the style of the music is not suited to the text that goes with it. A setting of V'Shamru follows. The style is more lyrical than in the previous pieces. The criticism here, however, is the same.

The performance by Cantor Benson is very good stylistically, in that the style suits him vocally. I can only won-

der if he can handle a real chazonishe recitative, mit orgl bagleitung ohne Saxophone und percussion, that is, a piece in bel canto style with only organ accompaniment.

The next piece is a setting of "Yismechu." While it is "groovy" it is not much different in style from the settings which preceded it. Cut #7 is a combination of "Yihu L'ratzon" with "Oseh Shalom." This does work well.

The last selection is a setting of "Aleynu." The first line of music I thought was effective. Unfortunately this musical line is repeated obsessively and I was relieved to hear the sax enter and the singer stop. The singer unhappily returns with the opening Aleynu phrase which is repeated until fade out. While I confess that I am not enthusiastic about this service as a service, I will not say that it is poor musically. It IS entertaining and good jazz. I must write that both of these CD's reflect the majority cultures they were born in, viz. Turkey and

For my taste neither is particularly Jewish in character, but who am I to make that judgment? Some musicologist the next century may write that this jazz service was definitive for its time. Go figure.

Dear readers: as I look at the dwindling pile of CD's I have yet to review, I notice that most are klezmer by different groups and a few childrens CD's and others by women I have already reviewed. If you have some CD I have not reviewed of some facet of Jewish music, please send it to me so that I may review it in this column. I will make every effort to get it back to you after I review it.

(Dr. Gold may be reached at: 12 Avenue B, Rutland, Vt. 05701-4503 or by e mail at: DrMGold@juno.com)

Peace advocates support Palestinians

JERUSALEM — Peace advocates took the issue into their own hands when they presented the leading Palestinian official here with a petition signed by 520 persons supporting the Palestinian people's right to declare a state in the West Bank and the

Gaza Strip, plus the eastern half of Jerusalem.

Faisal Husseini thanked the delegation, asserting that such show of support served the interest of both the Israeli and Palestinian peoples in their pursuit of peace.

Milk, Honey & Vinegar

Torah lost, children lost

By JUDY CARR

Every time you turn on the radio there is more news of a rape or perversion. Often it is fathers raping their own kids. How did all this get started in our glorious dream, the State of Israel, that was to solve every problem of us Jews?

It started when the majority of Jews in Israel divorced themselves from Torah. Not that everyone should live in Mea Shearim, but for many, if not most, Jewish Law and family life became a thing of the past.

But raping your own children, you say, aghast.

With no law, no rule, men thought they could do as they liked with a woman's body. A woman would be accosted in the street by a complete stranger asking for sex. Once a man introducing himself as a writer on a Tel Aviv bus, said he had a lot of sex with all kinds of women and invited me. I thought he was joking but he assured me he was not.

Men began to put their hands all over women, in a shop trying on a dress, on the bus. Rape with your hands became a commonplace on a bus. Then it got to real rape, the real hard stuff, with all kinds of tricks to decoy her. That nice, respectable man offering you a lift. Then you learned.

Yes, Judy, but you mentioned children.

Children are enticing little things, aren't they, if you ever stopped to think about it. Sweet little ways, attractive little bodies. And your own children are the most readily available. It is hot in Israel. A lot of us wear very little clothing at home.

I don't believe there was much violence. Father got attracted to the little girl - or boy. "Come on sweetie, have some nuts and candy. Abba will hug you and show you something nice to do."

And it went on, sometimes for years, until the child told a teacher or the kindergarten teacher got wind of it. Then the police were called in and all hell broke loose. Yet there seemed nothing wrong in it...

This does not happen with the religious, who keep their lives to a discipline, who acknowledge the rule of law. Rarely or never does one hear of it in a truly religious family.

I go to lunch with the rabbi's family. His daughters gather round him with utterly no fear of their father. They crack jokes. The adolescent daughter tells of a boy she had to snub. All is warmth and happiness.

Should we all go back to being religious?

We will not be able to.

The rot has set in, the rot and misery hanging like sewage over our lives.

When a Jewish child is not safe with daddy, then Jews must start to make the reck-

Judy Carr may be reached at POB 6431, Tel Aviv, mx 61 063 Israel

About Books

By JACK FISCHEL

One of the more plausible explanations regarding the Nazi decision to implement the murder of European Jewry is explained in a new and con-



troversial book by Gotz Aly, and is called Final Solution: Nazi Population Policy and the Murder of European Jews.

The book is translated from the German by Belinda Cooper and Allison Brown.

Aly, one of Germany's leading historians of the Nazi years, argues that the murder of European Jews followed the failure of at least three other territorial efforts to remove the Jews from the German sphere of influence. Looking toward the conquest of territory from the Soviet Union as a possible "reservation" for Europe's Jews, the Nazis turned to genocide once it became apparant that they were losing the war in Russia. Oxford University Press (this month, paper, npa).

Those of us old enough to remember the fight between American Stalinists and Trotskyites will relish the Encyclopedia of the American Left by Buhle, Buhle, and Georgokas. University of Illinois Press (this month, paper, \$29.95). The book is a fine reference book, and the steep price for a paperbound book is made up by its excellent binding.

I'm currently reading two new books that relate to one another: How Jews Became White Folks & What That Says About Race in America by Karen Brodkin (this month paper, npa); and Whiteness of a Different Color: European Immigrants and the Alchemy of Race by Matthew Frye Jacobson. Harvard University Press (this month, \$29.95). Brodkin is a professor of anthropology at the University of California, Los Angeles, and Jacobson teaches American Studies at Yale University.

Greenwood Press recently published Yiddish Proletarian Theatre: The Art and Politics of the Artef, 1925-1940 by Edna Nahshon. The Artef began as a radical Yiddish worker's theater and developed into a major American theater company (\$59.95).

Israelis plea for Pollard

JERUSALEM — What was probably the first such demonstration in Israel in behalf of imprisoned Jonathan Pol-

lard brought Knesset members and several dozen people outside the U.S. consulate

Fleisher loses, wins \$13,650

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. -Bruce Fleisher didn't win the Senior PGA Tradition tourney here but scored 146, 10 shots behind the winner, to win \$13,650 for his efforts.

Fleishman's Flight

'Get' problem a disgrace

By ALFRED FLEISHMAN

I was asked recently by one of my friends why it was so necessary for me "to sort of waste time" arguing, or concern myself, about the



halachic ruling against women who are seeking divorce for one reason or an-

It's such a little thing and besides there are so many other important things in Jew-

To which I reply, after abut 50 years in public relations that prove it, it's the "little things that make such a big difference in life."

This came to mind, (as being my own subject of the week) after reading the "quotation of the week" in the Post-Opinion of several weeks ago, in which Mrs. Post says in

"Thousands of Jewish women whose marriages are over are forced to remain legally bound to their husbands against their will, often in the face of spousal abuses or abandonment.

"Unable to start their lives

over and remarry without a 'get,' a religious document that only the husband can grant, they are known as agunot' or women in chains.

'Many husbands use 'gitim' as a bargaining chip to reduce or eliminate support payments or to win child cus-

tody rights.

"Sometimes husbands extort money in exchange for a 'get.' Now during Passover as we remember all members of the Jewish community, we remember those who are denied their just rights for life and freedom after marriage.

"Today, however, the husband can put his fist to his wife's face, take another lover, or deny his marriage partner love, money and comfort... and the marriage is still valid by rabbinic courts. Jewish law should not be used to promote such injustice, such impropriety and such cruelty.

'Our work is not finished until all women are unchained and free to pursue a peaceful and prosperous marriage. Indeed, we are not free as a community until each of us can achieve the spirit of freedom and redemption that we celebrate each year on Pesach."

May Mrs. Marlene Post and Hadassah not see another year go by until this disgraceful addendum to Jewish life, this affliction, is eliminated.

> This is a very worthwhile Continued on page 10

> > ish Week

Books by Rabbi Samuel Silver

(Prices Include Postage) How To Enjoy This Moment

A treasury of practical philosophy • \$9.50 "It brings joy for the moment and enrichment for life." Rabbi Maurice N. Eisendrath.

Explaining Judaism to Jews and Christians The basic tenets of Judaism and its relevance to our times • \$8.50

"I enjoyed every moment of Rabbi Silver's book. It's not a how-to book but more of a how not to waste the precious moments of life." - Arthur Levitt

Mixed Marriage Between Jews and Christians

The complexities and responsibilities of intermarriage • \$6.50

What Happiness Is...

Hundreds of definitions of happiness with definitions written expressly for this book by Bob Dole, Bob Hope, Art Buchwald, Sen. William Cohen, Rev. Robert Drinan, Isaac Stern, and Norman Cousins • \$10.50 Send orders and checks to Mrs. Elaine Silver,

15436 Strathearn Dr., Delray Beach, FL 33446 Tel: 561-499-2610

The Christian Right and the Jewish community: A plea for understanding

This is a response to our Center Spread in last week's issue by Prof. Marshall J. Breger of the Catholic University. Reed is the executive director of the Christian Coalition.

By RALPH E. REED, JR.

I come before you with a three-fold purpose. First, to recognize that there has been, in the past, a degree of insensitivity by both of our communities to the legitimate concerns of the other. Second, to explain who religious conservatives really are and what we really want for our constituency and the nation. Third, to propose that we move beyond the pain of the past and the uneasy tolerance of the present to genuine friendship based on our mutual opposition to religious bigotry in all its ugly forms.

Emerson once said, "A friend is a person with whom I can be sincere... I do not treat friendships daintily, but with roughest courage." So, in the interest of building such a friendship, let me speak

sincerely, and with courage.

All of us in this room and those whom we represent confront a grave issue. It is the undeniable and palpable suspicion — even fear — that many Jews have toward the political involvement of traditionalist Roman Catholics, conservative evangelicals, and Greek Orthodox, who number some 30 million of their fellow citizens.

All too often, Christians active in the political process find themselves caricatured and stereotyped as a danger to tolerance and a threat to pluralistic democracy. Some have suggested that religious conservative leaders are motivated by anti-Semitism and that their ultimate goal is the creation of a theocratic order that seeks to deny the civil liberties of their fellow citizens. One national political leader even went so far as to compare the Christian Coalition with Nazi Germany in the 1930s.

This is a grave issue for no other reason than the fact that it assaults everything that I and millions of other Americans understand being a Christian to mean. To be an object of fear rather than an agent of love and healing is contrary to all that we are and all that we aspire to be as a people.

History has much to teach us about the Jewish people and the Jewish faith. It is a history of remarkable triumph, of unbelievable adversity, and unfathomable pain. It is a history that gave civilization its first and still best code of law. It is a history that has witnessed new and barbarous acts that have given us the most chilling in the vocabulary of human suffering — pogrom, genocide, ghetto, and Holocaust.

As a student of history, I understand and appreciate that past. History was my chosen profession until I was sidetracked into public life. But history also has its limits. It cannot fully relate to me what your parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles have related to you — breathless accounts of hiding in attics to survive Easter Sunday pogroms, of midnight escapes from the Gestapo, of sewing a yellow star onto a coat sleeve, of having vicious epithets hurled at them like "killer of Christ."

These are the collective memories of suffering that you bring to the contemporary debate over the role of religion in American politics. Those of us who profess the Christian faith must never forget that these horrors occurred not only because of the hatred of a few, but because of the indifference of many.

The fear that some have of conservative Christians is rooted in that history, and for many Jews, our political participation is viewed through the lens of this traumatic past. While I believe that our movement represents all that is decent and honorable in American life, I must also acknowledge that not all who share our faith have demonstrated a sympathy for the burden of this history.

Last January I visited Israel for the first time. I met with many of its political leaders and traveled to Jericho and the West Bank, the Golan Heights, and Jewish settlements on the outskirts of Jerusalem. I visited some of the most holy sites of the Christian faith.

But the most moving experience of my visit was a tour of Yad Vashem, where I walked the path of righteous gentiles and stood silently before the eternal flame that burns in memory of those who lost their lives. The most anguishing part was an exhibit chronicling the official U.S. policy of indifference toward Nazi Germany's destruction of the Jews and the death camps that we knew existed.

I was recently reminded of this past while reading *No Ordinary Time*, the biography of the war years of Eleanor and Franklin Roosevelt by Doris Kearns Goodwin. In that book, the author de-

scribes the efforts of Eleanor Roosevelt and others to let European refugees fleeing the advance of Nazi Germany, many of whom were Jews, enter the United States. These valiant efforts met with the stiff opposition of the State Department and many others in our government. The tragic result was that, outside of a single vessel that docked in Norfolk, Virginia, and disembarked its precious human cargo, most refugee ships drifted aimlessly across the Atlantic and were forced to return to Europe, where many of their passengers lost their lives in concentration camps.

As the executive director of one of the nation's largest grassroots religious organizations, I reaffirm to you my obligation to teach that history to our members and supporters. We will never forget what you have endured and we will do all in our power to ensure that Jews are never again the targets of hatred and discrimination.

We can never know the full measure of indignities and suffering that you have known as a people. But in our own time, as we have entered what Richard John Neuhaus has called "the naked Public Square," informed by our religious beliefs and animated by faith, we have all too often been greeted by a strange and scowling intolerance.

One columnist recently denounced religious conservatives as posing a greater danger to democracy than Soviet Communism under Josef Stalin. Another called conservative evangelicals "the American equivalent of Shiite Muslims," managing in a single breath to offend not only 40 million Americans, but 100 million Muslims all over the world.

In South Carolina last year during the elections, an evangelical running for governor was ridiculed by an opponent who claimed that his only qualifications were "handling snakes and speaking fluently in tongues." In Nebraska, a small-businesswoman running for the United States Senate came under attack by the chairman of the Democratic party, who questioned where she attended church and referred to her as a "Christian type."

As movie critic Michael Medved has reminded us, popular culture reinforces this negative stereotype of people of faith. When Martin Scorcese remade the classic film "Cape Fear," he transformed the murderer played by Robert DeNiro into a Scripture-spewing Pentecostal with biblical verses tatooed across his chest, who sneers at one woman before raping her, "Sister, are you ready to be born again?" In the film "Alien 3," the protagonist struggles against an extraterrestrial colony of brutal murders who are clearly identified — not once, but twice — as evangelical Christians. And the recent Miramax movie "Priest" — originally scheduled for release on Good Friday, one of the highest and holiest days in the calendar of the Christian faith — portrays the Roman Catholic priesthood as a religious order dominated by homosexuals, embezzlers, and child molesters.

I take a back seat to no one in defending the First Amendment rights of those who make and distribute such films. But with the right to freedom of speech comes a responsibility. There is far more at stake than mere profits. It is the kind of culture our children will grow up in, the kind of civil discourse with which we communicate, and whether religion will be treated as a thing to be honored, or a thing to be denigrated and ridiculed.

All too often religion is treated by our culture as a form of intellectual pornography, something — to paraphrase Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia — that is allowed in the bedroom, but not out in public view. Last year, the *Washington Post* called conservative Christians "poor, uneducated, and easy to command."

This kind of religious bigotry is a threat to Jews and Christians alike, for, as John F. Kennedy said more than 30 years ago, "while this year it may be a Catholic against whom the finger of suspicion is pointed, in other years it has been, and may someday be again, a Jew — or a Quaker — or a Unitarian — or a Baptist... Today I may

be the victim — but tomorrow it may be you..."

Does this bigotry have an impact? The answer, tragically, is yes. A survey by the Gallup organization asked Americans whom they would least like to have as their next-door neighbor. Five percent said a Jew. Five percent said a Catholic. Thirty-three percent said a fundamentalist evangelical.

Imagine that — one out of every three Americans does not want to live next door to someone who goes to church, prays daily, reads the Bible, obeys the law, and tries to raise his or her children to be successful and productive adults.

My purpose is not to see who can best play the victim among us. That is a counterproductive and ultimately useless exercise. It is to point out that religious intolerance directed against anyone — Jew or Christian — is a threat to the religious freedom of us all.

That reality is, in the words of Rabbi Joshua Haberman, that the Bible Belt has always been America's safety belt. It was the religious values of our people that made this nation a refuge for the poor, the outcast, and the downtrodden. Faith in God is not a threat to democracy, it is essential to democracy.

So if religious conservatives do not conform to this negative cultural stereotype, then who are they really, and what do they believe? Let me be clear: the Christian Coalition believes in a nation that is not officially Christian, Jewish, or Muslim, a nation where the separation of church and state is complete and inviolable. A nation where any person may run for elective office without where they attend church or synagogue ever becoming an issue. A nation where no child of any faith is forced by government to recite a prayer with which he or she disagrees.

But like our founders, we also believe that we are a deeply religious nation. It was no accident that when the Pilgrims arrived in America they instituted a new covenant which emulated the covenant between God and Israel. It was no accident that engraved on the Liberty Bell are these words from the Book of Leviticus: "Proclaim liberty throughout the land and unto all the inhabitants thereof." We are, in the words of Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, "a religious people whose institutions presuppose a Supreme Being."

Today, our government and courts have confused freedom of religion with freedom from religion. This hostility is directed at Jews when the Supreme Court rules that the Kiryas Joel school district is unconstitutional, at evangelicals when students are suspended for distributing gospel literature, at Roman Catholics when an attorney is forbidden by a judge to wear ash on his forehead on Ash Wednesday, at all of us when a rabbi is prevented from offering a simple ecumenical prayer at a middle school graduation ceremony.

Our mainstream agenda includes a call for limited government, lower taxes, safe neighborhoods, schools that work, and traditional family values. The policies we advocate — a Balanced Budget Amendment, term limits, choice in education, welfare reform, and voluntary, non-compulsory religious expression in public places — are supported by the vast majority of the American people.

Many in the Jewish community share these same concerns. They are worried about the coarsening of the culture, the poverty of spirit, and the lack of civility in our civic discourse. They desire quality education, religious tolerance, the strengthening of families, and the inculcation of the values of their faith in their children, aspirations that are threatened by the twin phenomena of intermarriage and assimilation. These are not Christian concerns or Jewish concerns, but the concerns of every American.

In addressing these concerns, we must together find a way to balance the demands of our faith with the requirements of a free society. I am not saying that our movements can become one. But *Continued on next page*

Digest of the Yiddish Press

Genius of Sholem Asch

By RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

A literary genius was Sholem Asch (1880-1957). None of the great Yiddish writers exceeded him in style and profundity.



Born in Poland, he spent time in France, then in the United States, and then ended his days in Israel. He wrote 25 novels, 10 plays and hundreds of essays. He depicted Jewish life so stirringly that audiences were moved to tears and to applause. His plays and stories were translated into many languages, and he was the darling of the Yiddish world. A number of his works ran in the Forward.

Then he took an authorial turn - and many of his followers were turned off. What happened? He wrote a trilogy about Christianity: The Nazarene, The Apostle, and Mary. The Forward not only refused to run those books, but denounced him as a renegade and a missionary. His defenders asserted that he wasn't glorifying Jesus; he was depicting him as human and not divine. Indeed, his latest book was a treatment of the great Biblical prophet whose name is not known, but is referred to as Second (Deutero-) Isiah.

In the Forward Yechiel Shreibman wrote a profile of Asch saying that he is the fourth of the greatest of Yiddish classicists, after Shalom Aleichem, Peretz and Mendele (Rabinowitz). The writer either doesn't know that the Forward once snubbed him or chooses not to refer to it. He does write that Asch's Christian trilogy turned many Jews against him and that he himself was bitter about the . hostility.

Histadrut's palace

Once upon a time Histadrut almost dominated Israel. It was a union — plus. Its influence on the governments, during the long reign of the Laborites, was enor-

mous. And it erected a center for its activities.

The structure was palatial, including a theater, concert hall, meeting rooms and dining halls. The center was named after Abraham Liessin (1872-1938), a popular hero of Jewish socialists who had been an anti-Czar activist in Russia and then came to the United States where he was on the staff of the Forward and editor of the Labor Zionist journal, Zukunft (Future) besides producing a library of poetry and essays.

For the dedication of Beth Liessin a delegation of American Jewish Laborites, leaders of the Forward Association and the Jewish Labor Committee were on hand. Now, with Labor on the decline, with the ascendancy of conservative parties, Histadrut has not only become weak; it has been ensnarled in debts running to the hundreds of thousands.

Recently the group made a sad decision: it was going to dismantle Beth Liessin. In the area it will build two residential towers with the hope that the rentals will help reduce the debt. As one reads the sad Histadrut story one can almost hear the sighs of the man who wrote about it in the Forward, M. Tzanin, the nonagenarian who lived in the glory days of Histadrut and is bemoaning its sorry state.

Florida's Jews

In the Forward Gershon Chachanovich tells us some interesting things about the Jews of Florida. Item, next to New. York and California, Florida has the largest concentration of Jews in the U.S. Item, the first person to represent Florida in the U.S. Senate was a Jew, David Levy.

Remember April 19

The famous uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto occurred April 19, 1943. In the Algemeiner Journal, Zvi Rosenwein expresses regret that Jews have forgotten to mark that date as a reminder of Jewish heroism. He notes that the Reichstag in reunited Germany will be opened in Berlin on April 19. Can it be a coincidence?

The Christian Right

Continued from prev. page they can move from confrontation to cooperation, from suspicion to trust, and from fear to understanding. There are and will remain areas of disagreement. But we need not be disagreeable.

As a result of the 1994 elections, religious conservatives have now been given the opportunity at a unique moment in history to make our mainstream agenda a reality. To that end, we propose to contract

In any event, he urges us to remember that date as a way of saluting the intrepidity of Jews under stress.

Appeal for Pollard

The most recent appeal for leniency for Jonathan Pollard came in the way of a resolution adopted by the Rabbinical Council of Connecticut, an organization of traditional spiritual leaders. The council also urged the U.S. to press Arafat not to declare a Palestinian state, but to continue to negotiate with Israel about the future of the region. (Rabbi Yehoshua Hecht, in the Algemeiner Journal).

Conversion in Israel

Despite opposition from some Orthodox leaders, classes in conversion have begun in Israel. The program was recommended by a commission headed by Yaakov Neeman. Under the auspices of the government and the Jewish Agency, 24 teachers have been chosen to do the teaching. They are from the three major religious streams. The course of studies will last a year. According to the Algemeiner Journal, from 200,000 to 400,000 residents of Israel, many from Russia, are potential candidates for conversion.

Advice for parents

In an Algemeiner Journal piece Gershon Nof has some advice for Jewish parents whose children attend religious schools or who have tutors to teach Jewishness to their offspring. If you want your youngsters to be fond of Torah you should demonstrate your own attachment to it.

If you bargain with your Continued on page 14

with the American family to deal with many of the cultural and family issues that confront our nation.

But electoral victory has also given us the twin burdens of governance. The first burden is a reasonableness in governing, not only in what we propose, but in how we advance it. Second, to seek not only what is good for our constituency, but what is best for our nation. I believe that our spirits are humble enough, our hearts are big enough, and our aspirations are noble enough to beat those twin burdens.

But we must also remember — and this is important — that the eternal message of faith transcends the earthen vessel of political involvement. We will not be — indeed, we cannot be — measured as a people by how many precincts we organize, how many laws we pass, how many people we elect. For none of those tasks, however

desirable, will usher in the kingdom of God.

Whether as Jews or Christians, liberals or conservatives, Republicans or Democrats, we must never succumb to the temptation to identify our transcendent message of faith with a temporal political platform. Religion serve its highest purpose when it refuses to become the wholly-owned subsidiary of any political philosophy or party. As the great French observer Alexis de Tocqueville warned, "... in forming an alliance with a political power, religion augments its authority over a few and forfeits the hope of reigning over all."

Let these words be our warning. If we can be truer to our faith than to our politics, then I believe that we can bridge the chasm that divides us, and join hands together in a common crusade for the values and ideals that sustain us as a nation.

Israel aiding Kosovo refugees

JERUSALEM — The field hospital Israel will be setting up to aid refugees fleeing Kosovo will be established in either Albania or Macedonia. A team of eight Israeli physicians will operate it.

Israel has sent a plane full

of warm clothes, tents, medicines and other equipment to Macedonia.

The Jewish Agency has organized its own aid mission. It and Keren Hayesod plan to send a planeload of relief supplies to Albania

Fleishman

Continued from page 7 undertaking in Jewish life. It is more of a disgrace.

And it is of the utmost importance to Jewish life... and

how people regard it.

Alfred Fleishman may be reached at PO Box 410108, St. Louis MO 63141.

Misconceptions

My slant on the mezuzah

By RABBI REUVEN BULKA

Misconception: The mezuzah is placed on the doorpost in a slanted positin merely as a decorative nuance.



There is a difference of opinion among religious au-

thorities as to whether the *mezuzah* is to be affixed on the doorpost in a horizontal or vertical position.

The mezuzah is placed on a slant, somewhere between the horizontal and the vertical position, with the top part of the mezuzah facing inward toward the house or the room. This compromise incorporates a little bit of each of the views.

Incidentally, the Sephardic community places the mezuzah in a vertical position, pointing upwards to the heavens.

Israel: As I See It

EU abetting Arafat

By SAMSON KRUPNICK

On the eve of Passover when Jews celebrate the Exodus from slavery in Egypt and the birth of the nation of Israel to live in the land of Israel as



well as the present return to that land by the same nation of Israel, there now arises a powerful enemy which denies the right of this nation to live in its land granted to it by the Almighty forevermore.

The European Union with the German ambassador as chairman for this month took the initiative to issue provocative statements which endanger the very existence of Israel and denies its exercise of authority within its own land including the Holy city of Jerusalem.

When the Government objected to the entry of the Palestine Authority into east Jerusalem with offices and secret "police," and particularly the use of the Orient House as the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of the Palestine Authority, the German chairman rose quickly to the defense of the Palestine Authority declaring point blank that Israel does not now nor ever has had sovereignty over Jerusalem as its capital since Jerusalem is a "corpus separatum" in accordance with resolution 181 never adopted by the Arabs nor by the Jews in 1948.

Virtually everyone here protested loudly at this farce of diplomatic nonsense. Minister for Foreign Affairs Arik Sharon called in all the ambassadors and read the riot act to them with a warning to them not to visit the Orient House, since Israel would consider this as an unfriendly act. Most ambassadors made careful note of the Israeli attitude.

Following very quickly upon the heels of the Jerusalem debacle came a new declaration originating at a meeting of the Foreign Affairs Ministers of the European Union of all places in Berlin, the source of our greatest tragedy, the Holocaust. A "new Ger-

many" with the same tradition wrapped in subtle legalistic terminology. has the *chutzpah* of giving away our land to the terrorist Palestine Authority under the guise of "the right to self determination. including the option of a state" (a State of Palestine with Jerusalem as its Capital).

To add unmitigated gall to insult, the European Union statement concluded by adding: "The Palestine right is not subject to veto" (by whom?). Because the obvious enemies of Israel, whose many actions and statements to date have been strongly for the Palestine Authority and its "great leader President Yasser

Jerusalem. The U.S. Embassy is to be moved to Jerusalem this year. Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan has proposed a temporary Jerusalem location for the Embassy until the new building will be completed in order to emphasize that Jerusalem is the sole capital of Israel now and forever.

The reaction to the European Union's declaration, as expected, was loud and clear.

"We despise your cruel declarations. We despise their source and we will do all that is possible to make your declarations NULL and VOID!" In more diplomatic terms Minister Arik Sharon gathered the EU ambassadors and

To add unmitigated gall to insult, the European Union statement concluded by adding: "The Palestine right is not subject to veto" (by whom?). Because the obvious enemies of Israel, whose many actions and statements to date have been strongly for the Palestine Authority and its "great leader President Yasser Arafat," and anti Israel.. a continuation of the anti-Semitism that drenched the cursed soil of Germany and that of most of Europe with innocent Jewish blood. It appears crystal clear that the European Union with Germany at its head would be happy to see Israel disappear from the Middle East (as some of their statesmen have hinted broadly).

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The ultimate decision will be ours and not that of the European Union nor even that of President Bill Clinton. The U.S. Congress has spoken loud and clear: "No Palestinian State and no divided

explained to them with a posted map, Israel's security requirements and the dangers lurking with a foreign state well armed and equipped within or close to our borders.

He offered to guide them on a trip, with no takers.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu was more outspoken. He was extremely critical of this one-sided approach by an organization which requested participation in the "peace process" (which Arafat is. now systematically delaying in order to aid Barak in the election campaign).

The prime minister con-

cluded in a sorrowful tone: "It is a shame that Europe, where a third of the Jewish people was killed, should take a stand which puts Israel at risk and goes against our interests."

We add the quotation in the Haggadah recited with great feeling at the Seder: "In every generation there arise our enemies determined to destroy us, but the Almighty, blessed be He, rescues us from their evil deeds." So it will be it now!

(Samson Krupnick may be reached at 22 Pinsker, Jerusalem 92228, Israel) e-mail krupnick@internet, net.il)

Accept Israel's Red Cross told

NEW YORK — A campaign to secure recognition of Israel's Magen David Adom by the International Red Cross Movement has been launched by the American Jewish Committee which is asking tens of thousands of citizens to send post cards to the Red Cross to press for such action.

David A. Harris, the Committee's president, said "Israel is the only country in the world whose humanitarian symbol has ever been formally rejected. This is unacceptable. It must change."

Magen David Adom first applied for membership in 1949.

Mitzvah annuals being observed

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Perhaps the only congregation in America, or for that matter in the world, to do so, Congregation Ohavay Zion here

marks the anniversaries of those who have become bar or bat mitzvah and then has them participate in that service.

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POST & OPINION

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Opportunity for Rabbi

B'nai Israel Synagogue in Corpus Christi, TX, a conservative synagogue with egalitarian participation is seeking energetic Rabbi/Educator, to lead congregation.

Fax resume to: Andrew Lehrman 361-884-9618

Program Specialist

The Bureau of Jewish Education in Indianapolis is looking for a vibrant, enthusiastic person for a Program Specialist position. The job includes: Plan & Organize family programs, adult programs, teen events, etc. Fundraising and public relations are also part of this exciting job.

We require someone with some Judaic background, a college degree and some experience.

For more information, please contact Ora Leivant at (317) 255-3124



Social Calendar

By Jean Herschaft

Ed Koch, the 3-term Jewish mayor, and popular judge of the TV People's Court is found "guilty" of low ratings in the "Judge" format. He is being "disrobed" by former New York City Judge Jerry Sheindlin who takes over Ed's gavel in the fall.

Interestingly, Sheindlin is the 23-year husband of national TV's popular **Judge Judy**. Both will be on camera at the same time, 4 p.m., Jerry on WNBC — Judy on WCBS, as she has been. They will be competing for viewers. Judge Judy is hailed as the Queen of daytime TV — outranging "Oprah" and Jerry Springer, according to the media.

Appearing on a newscast Koch said, "I was the mayor who appointed both of them to judgeships in New York City years ago." Koch said he still keeps busy teaching at New York U., and Brandeis. Doing radio, being part of a law firm, but perhaps his most important endeavor now is a book on New York's Mayor Giuliani.

It's called *Nasty Man*, he told a TV news program on which he was interviewed.

"Rudy has been a good mayor, but has a nasty personality." Comparing Rudy with the mayor he beat at the polls, **David Dinkins**, he smiled: "David was a fine man, but a terrible mayor." As for the **Rev. Al Sharpton**, Koch praised him liberally.

Ed Koch still pervades in sincere smiles and humor. Would he like to run again for mayor here, he was queried? "The people voted me out, and they have to live with it. I won't run again."

First Lady Hillary Clinton will be the keynote speaker when UJA-Federation honors Edgar M. Bronfman and Charles Bronfman at its Keepers of the Flame Dinner later this month, as the recipients of the award named in honor of Alan C. Greenberg.

Special kudos to *The Jewish Week*, for garnering 10 awards for excellence in reporting from the New York Press Association 1998 Better Newspaper Contest. And to **Eric J. Greenberg**, reporter extraordinaire, who started way back in public schools, his proud parents told us personally, some weeks ago. "I clipped his school articles out and kept a scrapbook," she proudly noted, before learning of the JPA honors.

Her name is **Sara Lee Kessler**, age 47, and she is a battler, a winning one. Sara, from New Jersey, has just won a record \$7.3 million, in the state's employment bias case, for demoting her and ordering her to take disability leave after an accident while on the job.

Sara had won an Emmy Award for her work on covering the World Trade Center bombing. She had served in many capacities including a noon anchor. Sara claimed the station forced her to work on the sabbath, although they knew she was Jewish and objected to doing so. Her salary was \$300,000 a year.

Today she earns \$50,000 annually working as a reporter at a New Jersey Network station. Sara is married, the mother of two youngsters and dedicated to Jewish causes. She serves on the board of Yeshiva U. Stern College for Women.

The Jewish Peace Fellowship, chaired by a newly selected co-chair, Murray Polner and C. Toll Oppenheim, succeeding

Rabbi Philip Bentley, who retired after ten years at the helm, are calling for support of a young Israeli concientious objector currently imprisoned.

Yehuda Agus, 28, is the man. Agus was recognized as a prisoner of conscience by Amnesty International, Pollner states, and an international struggle to free him is currently being conducted.

May 9 New Yorkers will celebrate Salute to Israel Day Parade. National Shomrim will host their annual Pre-Parade Continued on page 14

South Florida: a venue for singles

By ROSE KLEINER

Singles taking their vacation in south Florida have many opportunities to meet new people at a leisurely, relaxed pace, and in a beautiful setting.

All along the coast, from Palm Beach down to Miami there is a proliferation of singles groups, for every age, that meet regularly, either at local Jewish Community Centers, synagogues, or private homes.

Visitors have a choice of attending weekday or weekend, daytime or evening, events such as parties, dances, discussion groups, or musical programs. A bonus for singles vacationing with their children are the childcare facilities available at some of the singles gatherings mentioned below.

In addition, south Florida's abundance of attractions, accommodations, and arts happenings, for adults and families, can make for a memorable holiday.

Singles groups for people with different interests can be found in a number of locations in south Florida. Those coming on vacation to this area should be able to fit in some contact with a group that is compatible.

The Single Gourmet holds gatherings every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at fine restaurants in Broward, Dade and Palm Beach counties, for Jewish singles who want to "meet, dine and mingle in an upscale climate" (954-723-9608).

The Levis JCC, in Boca Raton, runs the following programs for singles: Happenings Jewish Singles ages 20's, 30's and 40's. Mid-Singles Connection, 40's and 50's, and Singles 60+ (561-852-3230). Those who enjoy dancing can try Texas Two-Step Classes, every Monday, 8 to 9 p.m., at the Alper JCC in Miami (305-271-9000, ext. 273).

A new group of Jewish amateur musicians meets for "expression, creativity, support and friendship", welcoming all levels of musician (305-933-1431). Singles with Musical Talent get together with "other challenged musicians" at the Kaplan JCC (561-640-4613).

The Palm Beach Orthodox Kosher Singles (PBO KS) amateur musicians group is open to anyone with musical talent and interest to participate in klezmer, jazz, and Jewish music of all kinds. The Palm Beach Orthodox Kosher Singles Cycle club meets every Sunday, ll a.m., for brunch, before the ride. Helmets are required (561-687-3369).

The Levis JCC, Boca Raton, has Singles Volleyball every Thursday evening (561-852-6099). Sociable Singles meet every Sunday afternoon at the Soref JCC, Plantation (954-792-6700). Sensational Singles meet every Monday morning at the Levis JCC, Delray Beach (561-570-2000).

The excellent and abundant resort accommodations in south Florida can make any visit a truly relaxing experience, all along the coast and down to the Florida Keys. What is more, after the winter season rates plummet even at the most luxurious hotels. To the north, in Palm Beach, the Breakers Hotel has undergone extensive, and costly renovations. Its beautiful beach area, spa and lovely new Children's Secret Garden, with its sculptured topiary animals, are only a few of the features that make this landmark historic establishment a favorite destination.

To the south, the distinguished Boca Raton Resort and Club, gives visitors a marvelous choice between three distinct hotel sites, the historic Cloister building, by the golf course, the modern Tower building, or the beach building, all of which have the amenities of a world class hotel. Further to the south, in one of Fort Lauderdale's exclusive country club communities, the popular Wyndham Resort & Spa has been totally renovated, and has lovely spacious suites and rooms, several pools and many sports facilities, including horseback

In Miami Beach the Wyndham Miami Beach Resort, formerly the Doral, offers proximity to the famous boardwalk, and fabulous beach, along with large, attractive rooms. The hotel is only a short bus ride from the lively South Beach area, with its Art Deco buildings, and numerous outdoor cafes. For a more secluded vacation, to get away from it all, the Florida Keys can be a welcome change, especially at a place like Cheeca Lodge, in Islamorada. With its beautiful, serene beach, unique white pier, over crystal clear waters, and general respect for matters environmental, this establishment fosters an atmosphere of 'barefoot elegance' that is both soothing and refreshing.

A group for separated, divorced, or widowed men and women, 55+ And Single Again, meets every Sunday morning at the Posnack JCC, Davie (954-434-0499). Singles Shabbat Services are held the first Friday of each month at Temple Beth Emet, Pembroke Pines (954-435-0884). Programs for singles are also scheduled at Aish HaTorah Center, Hollywood (954-894-5303).

Singles ages 45-63 meet for dinner every Wednesday in the Margate area (954-567-8462). 'Let's Get Together,' an upscale professional singles group, meet for brunch on select Sundays (561-477-8166). A Singles Affair holds cocktail parties, including buffet and dancing to live music, on alternate Sunday evenings for Jewish Singles, ages 35 to 60 (954-370-7352).

A Jewish singles social group, FACES, for ages 20 to 40, has dances and parties every weekend at various locations throughout the tricounty area (305-932-4192). Yachad Jewish Singles meet at Congregation B'nai Israel, Boca Raton (561-988-0095).

Boomers 30 to 50 Singles meet the first Tuesday of the month at the Boynton Beach JCC, and on the second Tuesday of the month at Congregation B'nai Kodesh, Wellington. Meetings include parents with children under 14. Childcare is provided, and refreshments are served (561-689-7700).

Boomers and Single Parents, ages 30 to 50, meet every fourth Wednesday of the month at the Kaplan JCC, West Palm Beach, where refreshments, and childcare (for children to age 14), are provided (561-689-7700. ext. 305).

There are Singles dances, the first and third Wednesday of each month, at Temple Sinai, Delray Beach, where free lessons are included for a small donation (561-272-7763). A Coffee Shop and Discussion Series is held the first and third Thurday of the month at the Shul of Bal Harbour, Miami Beach, for singles 20 to 40. The Series is free of charge (305-868-1411).

Singles coming to South Florida in the summer will find excellent value in the various package deals offered by the best hotels, many of

Continued on page 14

It's Arlene Peck!

It's about men!

By ARLENE PECK

For the past nine years I've done a television show about a topic I freely admit that I know nothing about: Men.

Well, actually my show,



"WOW! Its Arlene Peck," is not exactly about men. However, when I do the celebrity interviews or political shows, it's a breeze. The men discussions are far more difficult, as when I talk about M*E*N* I feel I am talking about an alien nation. I have noticed, though, that men's thoughts and women's thoughts are totally different. It's true! Women are from Venus and men, G-d bless them, are from Sears.

Communication is the key. That, along with a lot of tolerance thrown in. Personally though, I've always believed that communication key to be, location, location, location. Women should always ask for what they want or point in the direction. Subtle hints don't work. When a woman says, "Don't you know what day it is? "He'll look at you blankly and wonder if he missed the Super Bowl. Anniversaries have to be marked on a calendar. Sadly, anniversaries and toilets have a lot in common. Men always miss them. When we ask if we look fat, they actually think we want an answer in the affirmative. I suppose it boils down to a woman can either ask a man to do something or tell them how we want it done, not both.

I've had three children, one boy and two girls. I noticed even during their formative years how the difference in the male and female brain manifests itself in different ways. Recently, a joke came over my Internet that sums up my feelings. "Little girls will tend to play things like house or learn to read. Little boys, however, will be inclined to do things like placing a bucket over their heads and running into walls. Little girls will think about doing things before taking any action. Little boys will just punch or kick something and will look surprised if someone ask them why they just punched their little brother who was half asleep and looking the other way." Or, to put it more basically. Diamonds are girl's best friends. Dogs are man's best friends. Which one would you say it the dumber sex? Frankly, I've always felt that if G-d wanted me to cook, she would have put diamonds on my kitchen floor.

A couple of years ago, I wrote a column about how science has found out that the brain size of women was 11 percent bigger than that of

lem occurs when cells are instructed by the little chromosomes to make a male baby instead. Because there are only so many cells to go around, the cells necessary to develop a male's reproductive organs have to come from cells already assigned elsewhere in the female. Recent test have shown that these cells are removed from the communications center of the brain, migrate lower in the body and develop into male sexual organs. If you visualize a normal brain to be similar to a full deck of cards, this means that males are a few cards

I suppose it's a good thing that G-d created man before she created woman. Because, you need a rough draft before creating a masterpiece. I have a Beverly Hills friend who's had seven or eight husbands. Some women never get over the impression that they 'need' a man. Some men never develop into the reality that it's better to want something than to have to 'need' it. In fact, if the truth be known, the best relationship is where your love for each other is greater than your 'need' for each other. Anyway, during our last conversation, I told her, "Darlin', men are like blenders. You may need one but you're never quite sure why.

men. I personally think that the basic difference really kicks in around puberty. Then it's more apparent that although the cage may be moving, the hamster is dead. Then not only the size of their brains differ but, the center of their thoughts also. Women think with their heads. Man becomes a zipper. Their thoughts originate much lower in their bodies where most of their brain cells reside.

It's true. I have read articles that told me, "All babies start out with the same number of raw cells which over nine months develop into a complete female baby. The prob-

short, so to speak. And, some of their cards are in their shorts."

Anyway, you get the idea. We are on AC and men are on

Men will tell you that they think logically while women react emotionally. The difference is in the element of maturity. But, frankly folks, I think that men are unlike government bonds. The government bonds eventually mature.

Women may not like to admit their age. Yet, I've noticed that few men act it. Which is not to say that's a bad thing. Yet, sometimes I look at a man and wonder how he was ever

Advice By Edlin

Foil those con artists

By RITA EDLIN

Q: My father died almost a year ago. My mother has been managing very well, except in money matters. My father always handled the bill paying and in-



vestments. And he invested wisely, on her behalf. She's not a wealthy woman, but she can live as comfortably as she has in the past, if she doesn't do anything foolish. I never wanted to interfere, because she's a smart woman, and says she can handle her own affairs. Also, she's very independent. "I'll ask for your advice," she says, "when I need it." Her bank account is in her name and mine.

Last week the bank called me because she had written a check for a large amount to an investment broker I never heard of. When I asked mother about it, she said, "I'm making an investment for your children's education, so don't worry." But I AM worried. I know there are lots of con artists out there making mega-bucks by exploiting older people and widows. I don't want mother to be a victim. On the other hand, I don't want her to think I don't trust her judgment. What should I do?

W.S., Atlanta

A: The first thing you should do is to ask the bank to hold the check until you have a chance to check the credentials of the broker. You can do that by calling a broker you trust, or you can call the Securities Exchange Commission in New York (212-748-8000) to determine if the investment company is legitimate. You would be wise to do this before the check clears.

"Conning" the elderly, newly widowed or divorced is a common technique used by swindlers to make money. It's illegal and immoral, and it's rampant. Some experts say that Americans are swindled out of more than \$40 billion a year, by people posing as "investors." So I'm glad you wrote and I hope this column will serve to alert others.

The newly widowed are particularly vulnerable to these con artists. Their victims may be dealing with grief, loss of status, confusion about the future and lack of information about financial matters. And those con artists know that. They offer friendship, compassion and "advice."

Their advice may be a scheme to make more money for the investor than conventional plans offer. They may plot graphs to show how inflation is growing faster than investment returns. This adds to the fear of those who are already fearful of facing the future alone. And it makes them more susceptible to "investing" in fraudulent schemes.

Imagine how you would feel if someone informed you that in 3 or 5 years you would not have enough income to pay the rent, let alone "invest" in your grandchild's education.

Scam artists prey upon the fears and fragilities of their victims. And they know how to do it. Rarely are their victims suspicious. They are presented with documentation of the expertise of these so-called "investors" and that of their companies (easily falsified). Con artists are sympathetic, persuasive, seemingly knowledgeable and appear to be concerned about their victims' financial future.

Do check the credentials of your mother's "investor." Hopefully, you will find that he is legitimate. Then you will have to face the "I told you so" response from your mother. But that's a small price to pay in the name of safety.

If not, by asking the bank to hold the check, you may have saved her from a loss. Thanks for writing.

Rita Edlin may be reached at 2412 Ingleside, 1-C, Cincinnati, OH 45206

able to beat out a million other sperm.

I suppose it's a good thing that G-d created man before she created woman. Because, you need a rough draft before creating a masterpiece. I have a Beverly Hills friend who's had seven or eight husbands. Some women never get over the impression that they

Continued on next page

Guidance from Genesis

Reviewed by RABBI SAMUEL SILVER

Voices From Genesis: Guiding Us Through the Stages of Life, by Rabbi Norman J. Cohen. 170 pp. Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock, VT. \$21.95.

Midrash is a Hebrew word based on a verb which originally meant "to dig," and later came to mean "to investigate" or "to search." Some of our sages dug into the text of the Bible and extracted lessons which can enhance our lives.

In this book Rabbi Cohen, provost of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, utilizes the midrashic method to point up the way stories from the Bible's first book reflect the vicissitudes of the reader. When we read the Bible, there-

fore, we are, in a way, examining ourselves.

Citing the stages in life listed by the psychoanalyst, Eric Erikson, the author guides us through the Genesis narratives, indicating the manner in which the persons in the book have often moved upward in enriching their lives.

To illustrate the midrashic method I often tell a joke with a word play: In Manhattan there's the library on Fifth Avenue with large steps. People often sit on those steps perusing books. On either side of the steps there is a lion. Those people are reading "between the lions." Midrashists delve into the Bible and read "between the lines."

The ladder of human development, Erikson reminds us, goes from infancy to adolescence to maturity, with some intermediate steps between. Of course, each of us can move upward or, using the free will that God gives us, we can regress.

In a sense the Bible, seen through the eyes of the midrashist, begins with the naivete of Adam and Eve, and progresses to the sophistication of Jacob and Joseph.

In the book the author creeps into the mind of Jacob just before, at the age of 147, he is about to bless the children of his son, Joseph. The book is a silent monologue in which Jacob traverses the experiences of his Genesis predecessors, from Adam to himself, and through his son Joseph.

When Noah was told the world was coming to an end, he thought of his own safety.

Silver

Continued from page 10 child's tutor or with your synagogue over the financial costs, you are indicating you put a low premium on education, and your children will follow your example.

Brazilian Jewry fading

Jews have lived in Brazil for 500 years. But Jewish organizational life began about 100 years ago. Immigration to the country was facilitated by the Baron de Hirsch fund which bought land in the country and helped underwrite passage to Brazil from East European countries.

The present Jewish population is estimated to be between 100,000 to 150,000. Each community has a federation

which is an umbrella group for the various organizations. But cultural Yiddishkeit is going downhill in the country because of assimilation, intermarriage and a lack of Jewish educators and professionals. There were only 3 Yiddish newspapers; now there are none. There are some fine day schools there, but they too suffer from a shortage of educators.

The Orthodox day schools once included the study of Yiddish, but their numbers are now few. And even Hebrew is giving way to Portuguese in those schools. The gloomy picture is given to readers of the *Forward* by David Marcus, of Rio de Janeiro.

Rabbi Sam Silver may be reached at 2309 NW 66 Dr., Boca Raton, FL 33496.

Florida

Continued from page 12 which have special programs for children. There are the Wyndham Kids Klubs at Wyndham hotels, the Family Seaside Breakaway package at the Breakers, and the Best of Boca, or Summer Value Packages at the Boca Raton Resort & Club, where the children's program is geared to four specific age groups. The emphasis at Camp Cheeca, at Cheeca Lodge, is on 'having fun and learning about the environment.' Included among the activities is Nature Art, Catch and Release Fishing and Earth But when Abraham was told that Sodom and Gemorrah were going to be destroyed, he pleaded with the Almighty to spare the innocent. That is moral evolution.

Other examples of human growth in Genesis are the way Isaac displayed passive resistance against the Philistines and converted the enemies into friends, and the way that Jacob and Esau, once separated, were reconciled.

Jacob himself is a role model of character development. He deceived his brother and his father. Later, in his dream, he wrestles with a shadowy figure, which is perhaps his conscience, and becomes sensitized to the feelings of others. That means that when we wrestle with our conscience and lose, we win. That is the import of the new name he was given, Israel, which means "one who has wrestled with God," or perhaps with that God-implanted instrumentality within us, the conscience.

The book has evoked the praise of many noted readers, such as Elie Wiesel. It'll evoke yours too.

Peck

Continued from prev. page 'need' a man. Some men never develop into the reality that it's better to want something than to have to 'need' it. In fact, if the truth be known, the best relationship is where your love for each other is greater than your 'need' for each other. Anyway, during our last conversation, I told her, " Darlin', men are like blenders. You may need one but you're never quite sure why. It's like putting a saddle on a cow. You huff and puff and finally do it. Then you wonder, why bother?"

Which brings me to the topic of sex. Recently, I heard a joke asking why do men like frozen microwave dinners so much? They like being able to both eat and make love in less than five minutes. That's probably why so many women fake orgasm. Too many men fake foreplay.

I wonder sometimes if women wouldn't be better off if men treated them like cars. This way at least, they'd get a little attention every six months of mileage on them. Probably that's why men like cars like BMWs and JAGs as they can spell them. I know one thing, a perfume named new car smell could be a big seller to the male of the popu-

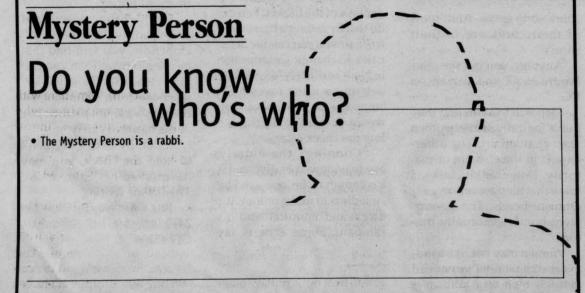
lation.

I've spoken to so many women and experts in the field about what women and men want in a relationship. Women, after exhaustive studies I have found want sensitivity, sexual proficiency, caring, humor, intelligence, ambition, tenderness, and an element of achievement.

Men say they want intelligence in a woman. However, when it's late at night and he's reaching up her knee, he's not looking for a library card. Would it be tacky if I said, I think all a woman has to do to make a man happy is show up — preferably, naked.

Before I get all those hostile letters accusing me of man bashing, nothing could be further from the truth. Despite all the single women that I know complaining that all the good men are married, while all the married women complain about their lousy husbands, I still won't buy into the thought that there is no such thing as a good man. I've just become a little confused as to good for what.

(Arlene Peck can be reached at 13900 MARQUESAS WAY, APT. 68C, MARINA DEL REY, CA 90292 or by e-mail: BSTREDHEAD@aol.com)



All Mystery Persons are limited to North American Jews. Winners of the Mystery Person contest will receive a two-month subscription, the equivalent of \$8 if not a subscriber, or, if a subscriber, a two-month extension of their subscription. Once appearing in the contest, that same individual will not be repeated as a Mystery Person. All correct answers are considered winners, not only the first received.

Herschaft

Continued from page 12 Breakfast at Central Synagogue.

Special congratulations to Rabbi Marc Schneier, head of the New York Board of Rabbis and the Hampton Synagogue, in Long Island on the birth of a son in March. Not only was his dad, Rabbi Ar, thur Schneier, at the festive brith, but had Yeshiva U's Rabbi Norman Lamm chanting the prayers. This makes the second child at the younger Schneier's home, first boy.

(Of course the brith was done "the old fashioned way" or more accurately "the traditional way")

Letters

FREEDOM OF THE PRESS — The Post and Opinion encourages readers to send letters. All letters to the editor should be addressed to The Jewish Post and Opinion, 238 S. Meridian St., Suite 502, Indianapolis, IN 46225, or by e-mail: Jpost@surf-ici.com. Handwritten letters will not be accepted. Letters may be edited for publication. Letters must be signed, but signatures may be withheld upon request.

Specter questions U.S. blind eye to terrorists

Dear editor,

The inexplicable failure of the Clinton administration to offer rewards for the capture of Palestinian Arab killers of Americans — even though it offers such rewards for the capture of killers of Americans elsewhere around the world and the administration's failure to indict any of the killers, were the central issues raised at the March 25, 1999 U.S. Senate hearing on the sheltering of 20 Palestinian Arab terrorists involved in the murders of 12 Americans since 1993.

U.S. Senator Arlen Specter (R-PA), who chaired the hearing, which was held under the auspices of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, raised the rewards issue in his questioning of the Clinton administration's witnesses, Assistant Secretary of State Martin Indyk and Deputy Attorney General Mark Richard.

Specter said: "You offer multimillion dollar rewards for information leading to the capture of terrorists around the world — why don't you offer such rewards for the capture of Palestinian terrorists who have killed Americans? You post information about terrorist victims on your web site, www.heroes.net — why don't you list the American victims of Palestinian terrorism there?"

Specter said: "There is a real question as to whether the administration is doing what needs to be done to catch these killers."

Indyk replied with a general statement that ignored Specter's specific questions about the rewards. Indyk made no statements critical of Arafat's actions regarding Arab killers of Americans.

Morton A. Klein, National President of the Zionist Organization of America (ZOA), and Sarah Stern, the ZOA's National Policy Coordinator, attended the hearings. Klein said: "Offering rewards and posting them on the State Department's web sites are the most basic initial steps in the process of capturing these Arab terrorists. The administration's failure to do

so makes one wonder if the administration is more worried about a public confrontation with Yasir Arafat than about capturing the Palestinian Arab killers of Americans."

The Zionist Organization of America (ZOA) has led the nationwide information campaign to educate the public and Congress about the issue of Americans murdered by Palestinian Arab terrorists. The ZOA has sponsored newspaper ads -including a full advertisement in the Washington Times on March 23, 1999— held public rallies, issued numerous reports, and held press conferences with Members of Congress and the parents of the victims, both in the U.S. and in Israel, on this issue.

The hearing also included moving testimony from the parents of two of the victims of terrorism, and a woman who was permanently injured in one of the attacks.

Stephen Flatow of New Jersey spoke about his 20 year-old daughter Alisa, who was a student at Brandeis University, who was murdered by Palestinian Arab terrorists in Israel in 1995. Flatow pointed out that some of the suspects in his daughter's murder have been publicly identified by Israel, yet the Clinton administration has not asked the Palestinian Authority to extradite them to the U.S. for prosecution.

Vicki Eisenfeld of Connecticut spoke about her son Matthew, a graduate of Yale University, who was murdered by Palestinian Arab terrorists in Israel in 1995. Eisenfeld noted that some of the suspects in her son's murder have been given jobs in the Palestinian Authority police force, and she urged the administration to demand that Arafat fire them. She said: "I will have no closure for us until these killers are brought to justice."

Another witness was Diana Campuzano of New York City, a 33 year-old businesswoman who was permanently injured in a Palestinian Arab terrorist attack in Israel in 1997. Ms. Campuzano described her ordeal, including the loss of sight in one eye, loss of hearing in one ear, the loss of her senses of smell and taste, and many hundreds of hours of surgery and rehabilitation. She has had seven operations, with three more to come.

Jean-Claude Niddam, the Israeli Justice Ministry's Director of Legal Affairs Concerning the Palestinian Authority, flew to Washington to testify at the hearing on behalf of the Israeli government. He said the PA has refused to honor any of Israel's 38 requests for the extradition of terrorists - including eight requests involving killers of Americans — and has refused to cooperate with Israel in any criminal investigations, although the Oslo accords require the PA to do so. Niddam said that the PA has permitted most of the killers of Americans to remain free, and given some of them positions in the PA police. He said Israel supports efforts to bring the killers to the U.S. for prosecution.

The Palestinian Authority's representative in Washington, Hassan Abdel Rahman, also testified at the hearing. He said nothing about the American victims of Palestinian Arab terrorism, and instead focused on the PA's demand for more American financial aid. After the hearing, ZOA president Klein approached Rahman to ask him about the PA's refusal to arrest killers of Americans, and the PA's continuing incitement of hatred and violence against Jews. Rahman began shouting and stormed away.

Constitutional expert and renowned attorney Nathan Lewin also testified at the hearing. Lewin represents the family of David Boim, a 17 year-old American citizen murdered by Palestinian Arab terrorists in Israel in 1996. Lewin told the hearing that one of the killers of David Boim, Ibrahim Sharif, was detained by the PA but then released — and Sharif then took part in the September 1997 Jerusalem suicide bombing in which five people were killed and nearly 200 wounded. Among the casualties were 14 year-old Yael Botwin of California, who was killed, and Diana Campuzano, who was permanently injured. Lewin said it is "inexplicable and immoral" that the U.S.. has failed to indict the other killer in the Boim case, Imjad Hinawi, who confessed to his role in a PA court last year. "Why does the Attorney General refuse to enforce U.S. law, by not indicting Hinawi?" Lewin asked.

Zionist Organization of America 4 E. 34th St.

New York, NY 10016

Arabs no equals in Jewish state

Dear editor,

Are we surprised why the Arabs in Israel do not join in observing Yom Haatzmaut instead of declaring a day of grief for May 14? You suggest it may be because they are not yet treated with complete equality.

Is it possible that even if they were treated with complete equality, economically, socially, and in every other way, how, by definition, can they sing Hatikvah and the words: Nefesh Yehudi Homiyah?

It was a fiction from the beginning that non-Jews could be equal in a Jewish State. Good treatment does not change the basic contradiction in identity. It is precisely when such a minority is given economic and political equality that the revolution against the dominant identity

Thus it was in America. Black America revolted not when Blacks were slaves but when they were free and given Civil Rights. The difference is that the United States,

by definition, is not white, or Christian. Therefore Blacks and Jews can ultimately be equal. But Israel is by definition Jewish, and Arabs are Muslims, not Jewish, as Israeli Christians are not Jewish. Citizenship and Passport do not create identity. If they did, Israel would not be Jewish, would it?

Rabbi Jacob Chinitz by e-mail

Reader interprets Steinsaltz message

Dear editor,

I wish to attempt to correct a misunderstanding, expressed in editorials of 3/24/ 99 and 3/31/99, concerning the meaning of Rabbi Steinsaltz's message.

Rabbi Steinsaltz used the word "Haredim" to mean "fanatic" or "extremist," and not "pious." Rabbi Steinsaltz was expressing the opinion that there are fanatics or extremists in each of the three groups mentioned (i.e.., frum conservative and secular) who are virulent, hostile and abusive to members of the other groups.

In summary, Rabbi Steinsaltz was making a plea for each group to speak about, and to other groups of Jews with tolerance, compassion and true Ahavat Yisrael, he was not expressing approval of the theology or practices of groups outside of traditional Judaism.

Ira R. Tannebaum, M.D. Potomac, MD

Kids told: invite God to your b'mitzvah

Reviewed by SYBIL KAPLAN

"For Kids—Putting God on Your Guest List" by Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin, Jewish Lights, \$14.95 paperback, 134 pp.

In 1993, Rabbi Jeffrey K. Salkin wrote "Putting God on the Guest List," addressed primarily to parents. Its challenge in the subtitle was "how to reclaim the spiritual meaning of your child's Bar or Bat Mitzvah."

Now he has written a guide for kids themselves, "how to claim the spiritual meaning of your Bar or Bat Mitzvah." He gives the history of bar and bat mitzvah,

then takes off from there with the secret meaning, why people cry, the meaning of Torah, the mitzvah aspect, the party in perspective, for skeptical kids, the actual service and life after.

Pre-bar/bat mitzvah kids don't often find time to sit down and read anything other than what is required for their school work and the ceremony itself, but if there is a way to persuade such a kid that one more reading is necessary, then this is the book to give him or her.

Continued on next page

Book Reviews

Anne Frank's background

Reviewed by SYBIL KAPLAN

"Anne Frank" by Melissa Muller, Metropolitan Books (Holt), \$23 hardbound, 330 pp.

To many, Anne Frank will always be the 13- to 15-year-old. Had she lived, she would be celebrating her 70th birthday this June, so three biographies are being published to commemorate this event.

Ms.. Muller is a journalist who lives in Munich and Vienna, according to her publisher. In this book, Muller presents a full biography of Anne and her family and the society in which they lived.

She drew upon contemporaries of Anne's and her father's; the international director of the Anne Frank Center in New York; the Netherlands State Institute for War Documentation; people from the Anne Frank Foundation; a historian, a filmmaker, the Netherlands Red Cross and more sources in Israel, Austria, Germany, Switzerland, France, South America, the United States and Holland.

It is obvious Ms. Muller did her homework thoroughly. She also includes a note by Miep Gies, who took care of the Frank business and the family while they were in hiding. One particular idea in her note is significant: "It is often said that Anne symbolizes the six million victims of the Holocaust," writes Mrs. Gies. "I consider this statement wrong. Anne's life and death were her own individual fate, an individual fate that happened six million times over. Anne cannot, and should not, stand for the many individuals whom the Nazis robbed of their lives....Anne Frank was only one of the Nazis' victims....I was not able to save Anne's life. But I was able to help her live two years longer.'

This biography portrays the full family and full life of Anne Frank, born in Frankfurt, Germany, in 1929. Her sister, Margot, was 3. Her father was involved in a small family bank specializing in international transactions. Otto Frank was a learned man who took the Führer Hitler seriously and through his brother-in-law was able to secure a job in Holland which took him and his wife and daughters there in 1933. He set up an office with trusted employees. During that period, the one and a half per cent of the population of Holland who were Dutch Jews were integrated and respected, but uncertainty loomed.

By 1939, they were questioning their safety. A year later the Germans occupied Holland and began instituting anti-Jewish regulations. By July 1942 the only choice seemed to be to go into hiding along with the 20,000-30,000 other Jews who were also in hiding. Throughout her 13 years, Anne is portrayed as combative, brash, a leader, demanding, intense, clever, vivacious, witty, possessive and of frail health. Margot was obedient and forbearing, the good daughter.

All of the information that has circulated over the years about the Frank family, passages Otto Frank deleted from the diary concerning Anne's conflict with her mother and the marriage of Otto and Edith are all revealed here.

The years in hiding and the writing in the diary blend into a full picture and are not the focus of the biography. The image of Anne, the teenager, is fully portrayed in this work. For example, "Anne herself described the period from 1942 until well in 1943 as a difficult time. In the long days of loneliness and despair and of conflict not only with her housemates but also and primarily with herself, Kitty and the diary became her closest confidants."

Her close relationship with her father is very strong, but one feels sorrow to realize that Anne saw herself as an adult and her parents saw her as a child. She had the obligations and duties of the adults but not the rights and she resented this greatly and longed for the privacy her parents had disregarded for her, while in hiding.

All of the life-long conflicts with her mother, an introverted, serious, shy woman are here. There are details of the passages Otto deleted from the diary because they referred negatively to her mother and the marriage. The book does not stop when the diary stops and, in fact, there are few references to the diary because this is not a book about the diary but about Anne's life.

When the police received the call (from a woman), 25 months after they had gone into hiding, the inhabitants were taken to the well-known transit camp, Westerbork, where they stayed four weeks. From there Anne and Margot were sent to Auschwitz where they stayed four months and then on to Bergen-Belsen where both died in 1945.

The eyewitnesses who were able to provide information to Ms. Muller to relive Anne and Margot's last weeks and days is poignantly captured. The epilogue, also, presents the people mentioned and what happened to them eventually. Otto Frank set up numerous foundations and died in 1980. This book is definitely a "must read." Previously unpublished photographs are also included.

To put the Diary in perspective is necessary, and this biography does that. It shows the reader the full life, the full background, the full family portrait and the complete relationship of this one family to what was going on around them over the years.



GRAND PRIX WINNER — America's premier rider, Margie Goldstein-Engle did it one more time as she and her mount, Hidden Creek's Alvaretto, captured the \$150,000 Budweiser Invitational Grand Prix in Tampa Saturday. They put in the only clear round within the time allowed, only the second horse and rider to go through a jump-off in the 26-year history of the invitational.

Kaplan

Continued from prev. page

The best part of this book is space in the chapters for the youngster to reflect and respond, like a journal, to serious questions like: what have your parents and grandparents told you about bar or bat mitzvah and what would you like to tell them? What

mitzvot will you choose to do? What makes parties good or bad? When have you felt spiritually elevated and inspired?

The book concludes with a glossary and suggested places for your tzedakah. This is truly a great book for preteens anticipating bar/bat mitzvah beause it genuinely speaks to them

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